Rideout, Mr. Joseph
Filed: Belgian Congo

September 8, 1955

Mr. Joseph Rideout
National Geographic Society
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rideout:

Pardon this belated acknowledgment of your kindness in having that reel of film exposed and developed for me. It has reassured me as to the condition of the film that I carried to Africa and home again.

Incidentally, you will be interested to know that I have rather successfully disposed of practically all the surplus film that we had.

All thanks to you for your help,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:vb

N.G.S.
Belgian Congo

National Geographic Society
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.
JOHN OLIVER LA GORCE
PRESIDENT

October 27, 1954.

Dear Dr. Schmitt:

Thank you for your letter of October 26th and the invitation to take part in the proposed Belgian Congo expedition under the sponsorship of the Smithsonian Institution, the personnel to include Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Bredin, Dr. Wharton, yourself and a photographer.

Unfortunately three of our staff field photographers are away under medical care for an indefinite period. Such being the case, with commitments already made and the fact that we are short-handed I regret to say that after careful consideration we cannot avail ourselves of the opportunity which you so kindly offer. This decision is reached after a careful survey of our photographic situation.

I have asked the heads of our Photographic Laboratory and our Illustrations Division to see if they can locate a competent photographer whose name we can send you promptly who might be helpful to you in finding a good man.

With renewed thanks for your advising us of this opportunity plus renewed regrets that we cannot furnish the photographer,

Sincerely yours,

John O. La Gorce

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt,
Curator, Department of Zoology,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington, D.C.

October 26, 1954

Dr. John Oliver LaGorce
National Geographic Society
16th and M Sts., N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. LaGorce:

I am downright sorry that you have been under the weather with a rather heavy cold. I hope it has been not too severe. I know what colds are because until I began taking flu shots I had an attack every fall. I am not altogether certain that injections do stop the flu, but I must admit the psychological effect is good and the one year I skipped the shot I paid up for it!

What I have been so anxious to see you about I mentioned to your wife. A good friend of mine with whom I spent three months on the Joseph Conrad in the West Indies in 1937 will be sponsoring a little exploratory visit to the Belgian Congo, primarily to investigate the invertebrate life there--pond life, the river shrimps, and the land crabs, along with the minor (in point of size) insects that are such important carriers of many of the tropical diseases. The latter is a problem of prime interest to the Belgian government, and the gentleman who will be the second scientific member of the party is a specialist in this field and has been in correspondence with the local Belgian authorities in the Kivu region on this very subject. Thus, we will have prime official contacts, which will make for facilities not otherwise available.

Dr. Carmichael has assured me that the Smithsonian will be happy to sponsor the expedition. The party is to consist of five people--Mr. Bruce Bredin, who will underwrite the major expenses; his wife; two scientists, Dr. Wharton and myself; and a photographer. It is regarding this latter individual that I approach you.

Could your Society contribute a competent photographer to the expedition? I hope that you have one free for the period we plan to visit the Congo, April and May 1955. I view of this courtesy, if it is possible, Mr. Bredin has indicated to me that he would be only too happy to give the National Geographic Society exclusive rights to the first public showing of the picture, as well as first rights to any publication of any of the pictures that your photographer might take. I think there will be no question about first rights to the publication of a general, over-all, or whatever account you might wish for the Magazine. This last point I would have to discuss with Dr. Carmichael, but I am sure he would not object, either, because what finer publicity could the Institution have than an article in your publication?

My tentative arrangements, merely for discussion purposes, are embodied in the enclosed copy of a letter mailed to Mr. Bredin on October 21. I have further discussed matters with him to the extent of learning that we should take a Belgian line freighter which reaches Matadi two weeks after leaving from New York. I shall in the next day or two be reserving passage on the vessel, which will leave early in April or late in March--as near the first of April as possible.

As regards the river trip, Mr. Bredin thought that the seven days' voyage from Leopoldville to Stanleyville might be cut in half by auto; that is, leaving the steamer after three or four days somewhere along the river and proceeding to Stanleyville by auto. The rest of the trip through the Congo would also be by auto. There is no intention of hunting large game, or even birds, which have been pretty well shot over by most expeditions. However, it is planned to photograph these wherever possible in the national parks, and we hope with the guidance of the park authorities. I have for many years been personally acquainted with Dr. Victor Van Straelen, long-time director of the national parks of the Belgian Congo. I am writing him about the trip and asking for both his help and advice. As you will see from my letter to Mr. Bredin, I have already contacted Baron Dhanis, of the local Embassy, who has promised me several letters, including one to the chief who will stage us a river spectacle at Biondo.

As you will see, our plans are largely tentative at this time and I would keenly appreciate any advice you could give me as to places we could profitably visit. The organisms that we shall be collecting occur almost everywhere in the Belgian Congo. Though we cannot cover the entire country, we hope to make what might be called a strategic survey of what does exist in the places we visit within the present general outline.

I do hope that the Society can participate to the extent desired. I am sure, if you feel it desirable, that we can arrange with Dr. Carmichael and Mr. Bredin to make it a tripartite expedition and that we can furnish the necessary film if your photographer can provide the equipment. There will be other cameras in the party for still pictures. With them we might be able to supplement what your photographer would take.

Forgive me if I press you for an early reply. We want to have a first-class photographer and such a man will not be easy to find outside of your organization. Here's hoping that the matter appeals to you and that we can get together sufficiently valuable material to make it worth the National Geographic Society's while. The very fact that we are going for forms of animal life not ordinarily sought should add greatly to the interest of the expedition.

I'll be glad to talk matters over with you also at your convenience. May this find you over the worst of your bout with the cold or flu bugs. My regards also to Mrs. LaGorce.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:LMc

October 26, 1954

Mr. Leon Canova
National Geographic Society
16th & M Sts., N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Canova:

As you will see from the enclosed correspondence, I am anxious to get an early response from the Society regarding the possibility of its contributing a photographer to the contemplated expedition. I do know that things of this sort take some time, but the sooner I can get an answer the happier we shall be. There is so much to arrange and so many letters to write to our correspondents in the Congo region and in Belgium.

As I mentioned to Mr. LaGorce, I shall be glad to come and talk things over with him at any time. Meanwhile, if he is at home, could you send this letter out to him by messenger? This would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:LMc

Neumade Products Corp.

Filed: Belgian Congo

November 2, 1955

Neumade Products Corp.
New York, New York

Gentlemen:

I would like to obtain two of the scales or rules that you have for the timing of motion picture sequences. I believe that "Neuscale" is its trade name. Please quote me the price or else bill them to me.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:vb

Dr. S. to get proper address from phone co.

Nuyten, Dr. G.

Filed: Belgian Congo

August 30, 1955

Air Mail

Dr. G. Nuyten
Institut des Parcs Nationaux
du Congo Belge
Rue Montoyer, 21
Bruxelles, Belgium

Dear Dr. Nuyten:

First of all, greetings to you and your wife. I have not forgotten that very happy evening we had together with Dr. Baker in Brussels. I saw more of your fair city in those altogether too few hours than many another friend who has visited Brussels and had more time to devote to sightseeing than I.

In the Congo we had a most wonderful time, especially in the several Parks over which your organization holds jurisdiction. I recently wrote Dr. van Straelen a long over due letter making some acknowledgement of his and your Institute's many kindnesses to our party. The highlights of the trip were the visits to the Parks. To each of the superintendents I also owe a letter of appreciation but, as I wrote Dr. van Straelen, I did not have their complete addresses and asked if your park service had a small directory or annual report which carried them.

I am still grateful to Felix for taking those moving pictures of Dr. van Straelen, Baker, and myself, and would have reimbursed you before this if you had but sent me the bill. Enclosed is a draft for $58.00 (fifty-eight dollars) which was the exchange rate generally given me for dollars in the Congo. Here in Washington, they offered about 186 or so; in the Congo it was usually 1.96 or better. Do not concern yourself about the difference, if any.

There is one thing I forgot to ask Dr. van Straelen and that was for a copy of the lists we were shown in your offices of animals of all kinds, chiefly insects, for which you were seeking identifications. You may already have sent Dr. Baker copies of the insect lists. He is with the Department of Agriculture; but I also want copies for reference here at the Museum, and especially of the lists of unidentified invertebrate animals other than insects, if any.

Your organization, without question, is staffed with as fine a group of young, able, efficient, and prepossessing young men as it has ever been my good fortune to meet anywhere. One is tempted to ask, "Where do you get them?" But the answer is only too obvious, "We produce them." That's fine, but it is after all the very wonderful merit system that you maintain that gives them their due reward, and places them in the high positions they so satisfactorily fill. I have nothing but praise for your staff at home and in the Congo.

I thank you, Dr. van Straelen and your organization for all that was done for us in the Congo.

I can say little about the motion pictures we took because our National Geographic Society, which has promised to look over and edit them, doesn't want them handled until they can attend to the matter four weeks hence.

It goes without saying that I would love to revisit Belgium, especially Bressels, and of course the Congo,-both where I was this trip and the other parts of it that we did not have time to see. You will hear from me again if I can ever raise the "wind", the funds that would make it possible.

My very best to you and your wife and our mutual friends, both at the Institute and in the Congo.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Enc.

WLS:vb

Recd 8/18/55

ROYAUME DE BELGIQUE

INSTITUT DES PARCS NATIONAUX DU CONGO BELGE

DIRECTION

BRUXELLES, le 10 août 1955
Rue Montoyer, 21
Télégr. : PARCNAT

N° 93.980
(à rappeler dans la réponse)

Monsieur le Conservateur en Chef,

Tour.-Aut.vis.

Nous avons l'honneur de vous faire parvenir sous ce pli la facture concernant les débours occasionnés pour l'enregistrement du film lors de votre visite à Bruxelles. Nous espérons que ce document vous est bien parvenu et qu'il vous donne entière satisfaction.

Comme vous pourrez le constater, nous avons déduit du montant que nous avons payé à M. FELIX, la somme de 600,--frs que vous aviez avancée pour l'achat d'un fer à souder le plastique.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Conservateur en Ch. l'assurance de notre considération distinguée.

LE SECRETAIRE DU COMITE DE DIRECTION a.i.

G.NUYTEN.

à Monsieur Waldo L.SCHMITT
Head Curator
Department of Zoology
Smithsonian Institution
United States National Museum
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.
==========
U.S.A.

Bill and payment sent 8/30/55 WB

Fr. Film less 600 fr. do Felix.

WA-1-863-136
Fr. 858

C. CHÈQUE POSTAL N° 7118.36
BANQUE DU CONGO BELGE N° 20.970

TÉLÉPHONES 13 11 27 / 12 87 98
TÉLÉGRAMMES : TOURCOL - BRUXELLES

OFFICE DU TOURISME DU CONGO BELGE ET DU RUANDA-URUNDI

28, PUTTERIE - BRUXELLES

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14, RUE DU 4 SEPTEMBRE

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MOMBASA :
FOURWAYS TRAVEL SERVICE
STATION ROAD
P. O. BOX 1173

OSLO :
MR. TAMENNE
15, KONGENSGATE

November 28, 1955
REF FD FVB

Waldo L.SCHMITT, esq.,
Head Curator
Department of Zoology
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
United States National Museum
WASHINGTON 25 D.C.

Dear Sir,

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 8th instant together with a cheque of the American Express Company n° 1-864-440 for the amount of one dollar 10 cents.

Thanking you for your remittance, we are,

Yours faithfully,

R.DE MEYER,
Director.-

Office du Tourisme du Congo Belge
et du Ruanda-Urundi

November 8, 1955

Air Mail

Mr. R. De Meyer, Director
Office du Tourisme du Congo Belge
et du Ruanda-Urundi
28, Rue de la Putterie
Bruxelles, Belgium

Dear Mr. De Meyer:

I thank you for your helpful interest in my desire to obtain some of your very informative maps. To discharge my additional indebtedness to you I enclose an American Express Company draft for one dollar and ten cents ($1.10).

Sincerely,

Am. Exp. O.
WA-1-864-400
$1.10

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Enc.
WLS:vb

C. CHÈQUE POSTAL N° 7118.36
BANQUE DU CONGO BELGE N° 20.970

A.S.B.L.
SOUS L'EGIDE DU MINISTERE DES COLONIES

TÉLÉPHONES { 13 11 27 / 12 87 98
TÉLÉGRAMMES : TOURCOL - BRUXELLES

OFFICE DU TOURISME DU CONGO BELGE ET DU RUANDA-URUNDI

PRÉSIDENT : A. MOELLER DE LADDERSOUS
DIRECTEUR : J. MONTEYNE R DE MEYER

28, RUE DE LA PUTTERIE - BRUXELLES

November 3, 1955
REF FD FVB

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MR. HERMAND
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MOMBASA :
FOURWAYS TRAVEL SERVICE
STATION ROAD
P. O. BOX 1173

Waldo L. SCHMITT, esq.,
Head Curator
Department of Zoology
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON 25, D.C. U.S.A.-

Dear Sir,

We have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of September 30, received today, and thank you for your check in the sum of $ 2.- in payment of our invoice n° 782 for Bfrs.82.-

Further to your request, we are sending off to you today, by registered mail, a copy of the political and administrative map of the Belgian Congo, scale 1/3.000.000. We hope this will prove satisfactory. As the price of this document is Bfrs. 73.- (Bfrs. 65.- + 8.- postage) and as the balance of your account with us stands now at Bfrs.18.-, it would be appreciated if you would cover us in the amount of Bfrs.55.- or $ 1.10.

In case this may be of use to you, we are enclosing herewith a list of the publications on sale at this Bureau.

We are, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

R.DE MEYER,
Director.-

sep.(reg.): 1 map Min.Col.
ann.: 1.publ.

LISTE DES PUBLICATIONS EN VENTE A L'OFFICE DU TOURISME DU CONGO BELGE ET DU RUANDA-URUNDI (septembre 1955)

28 - Putterie BRUXELLES

I. - OUVRAGES PUBLIES PAR L'OFFICE

	PRIX	Supplément pour envoi recommandé	
		Belgique	Etrang.
1- GUIDE DU VOYAGEUR AU CONGO BELGE ET AU RUANDA-URUNDI ouvrage de 850 pages, illustré de 400 photographies, 23 cartes et plans de villes. 3e édition	225.-	-	25.-
2- GUIDE DU VOYAGEUR AU CONGO BELGE ET AU RUANDA-URUNDI Ensemble des descriptions touristiques de la 3e édition	100.-	-	20.-
3- REISGIDS VOOR BELGISCH CONGO EN RUANDA-URUNDI 2e édition	225.-	-	25.-
4- TRAVELER'S GUIDE TO THE BELGIAN CONGO AND RUANDA-URUNDI 2e édition (en préparation)	225.-	-	25.-
5- LA CHASSE AU CONGO BELGE (français et anglais) ..	10.-	-	-
6- DORSALES TRANSAFRICAINES - Itinéraire Nord-Sud - Secteur Congo Belge	50.-	5.-	7.-
7- CARTE TOURISTIQUE DU RUANDA-URUNDI	75.-	5.-	7.-
8- SCHEMA DES GRANDES DORSALES TRANSAFRICAINES	10.-	-	-
9- CARTE ETHNOGRAPHIQUE DU CONGO BELGE, en couleurs ..	20.-	-	-
10- AFFICHE TOURISTIQUE OKAPIS, en couleurs	10.-	-	-

II. - EDITIONS DIVERSES

51- LA PECHE SPORTIVE DANS L'ESTUAIRE DU FLEUVE CONGO (français et anglais)	25.-	5.-	5.-
52- TRANS-AFRICAN HIGHWAYS (A.A.S.A) - 480 pages	175.-	7.-	18.-
53- LES PARCS NATIONAUX DU CONGO BELGE (I.P.N.) 70 pages (français, néerlandais, anglais)	35.-	5.-	8.-
54- CARTE "ALBERT NATIONAL PARK & ENVIRONS"	20.-	-	-
55- A TRAVERS PLAINES ET VOLCANS DU PARC NATIONAL ALBERT - (I.P.N.) par R.Hoier	300.-	8.-	18.-
56- ANIMAUX PROTEGES AU CONGO BELGE (I.P.N.).....	200.-	10.-	25.-
57- ALBUM CONGO BELGE (P.Verger)	100.-	5.-	13.-
58- CONGO, TERRE DE BEAUTE ET DE PRODIGES par L.Bourgaux (éd.A.De Boeck).	110.-	7.-	14.-

59-	INTRODUCTION AU CONGO BELGE, par R.De Meyer (Office de Publicité)	100.-	6.-	8.-
60-	CONGO, par A.Cauvin et J.Latouche (éd.Elseviers)...	275.-	10.-	22.-
61	TERVUREN - Trésors d'art du Congo	80.-	6.-	9.-
62-	ALBUM KIVU (Dessart)	180.-	5.-	15.-
63-	ALBUM KATANGA (Dessart)	180.-	5.-	15.-
64-	HORIZONS DU MONDE, album n°2 : Congo Belge et Ruanda-Urundi	70.-	7.-	12.-
65-	PETIT COURS DE KISWAHILI PRATIQUE	80.-	6.-	8.-
66-	LES ARTS POPULAIRES DU CONGO BELGE (G.D.Périer)...	35.-	6.-	8.-
67-	ATLAS GEOGRAPHIQUE ET HISTORIQUE DU CONGO BELGE ET DU RUANDA-URUNDI, par R.De Rouck (éd.De Rouck) ...	150.-	8.-	16.-
68-	CARTE ROUTIERE DU CONGO BELGE ET DU RUANDA-URUNDI (T.C.R.C.B).....	100.-	6.-	10.-
69-	CARTE POLITIQUE ET ADMINISTRATIVE DU CONGO BELGE au 1/3.000.000 + index des noms	65.-	5.-	8.-
70-	CARTE DU TERRITOIRE DU RUANDA-URUNDI au 1/500.000 en couleurs (1953) (français et néerlandais)..	50.-	5.-	8.-
71-	CARTE ROUTIERE DU CONGO BELGE au 1/2.500.000 + index des noms (Mantnieks)	125.-	5.-	8.-
72-	CARTE DU CONGO BELGE au 1/4.000.000 + index des noms (De Rouck)	20.-	-	-
73-	CARTE OFFICIELLE ROUTIERE DU CONGO BELGE au 1/1.000.000 (par province - six feuilles) la feuille	100.-	5.-	7.-
74-	CARTE OFFICIELLE ROUTIERE DU RUANDA-URUNDI au 1/500.000	100.-	5.-	7.-
75-	GUIDE ROUTIER DES ENVIRONS D'ELISABETHVILLE (Royal Automobile Club du Katanga)	35.-	5.-	7.-
76-	GUIDE ROUTIER DES ENVIRONS DE JADOTVILLE (Royal Automobile Club du Katanga)	35.-	5.-	7.-
77-	PLAN DE LEOPOLDVILLE ET ENVIRONS + guide-index (éd. Librairie Congolaise)	40.-	6.-	7.-
78-	PLAN D'ELISABETHVILLE (Lesigne)	40.-	6.-	8.-
79-	PLAN DE STANLEYVILLE (Lesigne)	50.-	6.-	8.-

Les envois d'une valeur supérieure à Frs 20,- sont expédiés par voie postale recommandée.

L'OFFICE DU TOURISME ne fait aucun envoi contre remboursement. Versement préalable à notre Compte Chèque Postal n° 7118.36 ou près la Banque du Congo Belge n° 20.970 - Bruxelles.

Office du Tourisme du Congo Belge
et du Ruanda-Urundi

September 30, 1955

Air Mail

Mr. R. De Meyer, Director
Office du Tourisme du Congo Belge
et du Ruanda-Urundi
28, rue de la Putterie
Bruxelles, Belgium

Dear Mr. De Meyer:

It is always a puzzle as to how best to pay for things bought abroad. With this I send you two one dollar bills ($2.00) to cover the cost of the map that I asked for and which you are now sending me under your letter of September 23. Any change left over I would like applied to a map of the Belgian Congo which clearly shows the territories and provinces, the political subdivisions of the colony. Any difference I will be glad to send you upon notification. Your assistance in this matter will be appreciated and I thank you for the prompt dispatch of the chart showing the ancient Hamitic Kingdoms of Central Africa. I shall acknowledge it upon its receipt.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

But finally sent WA-1-863-679 for 2.00

Enc.
WLS:vb

C. CHEQUE POSTAL N° 7118.36
BANQUE DU CONGO BELGE N° 20.970

A S B L
SOUS L'EGIDE DU MINISTERE DES COLONIES

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TÉLÉGRAMMES : TOURCOL - BRUXELLES

OFFICE DU TOURISME DU CONGO BELGE ET DU RUANDA-URUNDI

PRÉSIDENT : A. MOELLER DE LADDERSOUS
DIRECTEUR : J. MONTEYNE

28, RUE DE LA PUTTERIE - BRUXELLES

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U. S. A.
BUREAUX SABENA
SAN FRANCISCO - LOS ANGELES
CHICAGO - DETROIT
DALLAS
BUREAU PRINCIPAL A NEW-YORK
SABENA, 422, MADISON AVENUE

CORRESPONDANTS :

LE CAIRE :
MR. HERMAND
HELIOPOLIS PALACE

MOMBASA :
FOURWAYS TRAVEL SERVICE
STATION ROAD
P. O. BOX 1173

September 23, 1955
REF FD FVB

Waldo L. SCHMITT, esq.,
Head Curator - Department of Zoology
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
U.S.National Museum
WASHINGTON 25 D.C. U.S.A.-

Dear Sir,

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of September 14, 1955, ref. WLS:vb, in which you inform us of your wish to obtain a copy of the ancient Hamitic Kingdoms of Central Africa map.

We thank you for your order, which is being despatched to you today by registered mail.

Please find enclosed the invoice covering this order ;it would be appreciated if you would settle with us for this amount either by cheque or by transfer to the credit of our account nr 20.970 with the Banque du Congo Belge in Brussels.

Yours faithfully,

R. DE MEYER,
Director.-

sen(reg.mail): ancient Ham. Kingd.of Centr.Afr.

encl.: invoice nr 782

INVOICE NR 782

C. CHÈQUE POSTAL N° 7118.36
BANQUE DU CONGO BELGE N° 20.970

A.S.B.L.
SOUS L'EGIDE DU MINISTERE DES COLONIES

TÉLÉPHONES 13 11 27 / 12 87 98
TÉLÉGRAMMES : TOURCOL - BRUXELLES

OFFICE DU TOURISME DU CONGO BELGE ET DU RUANDA-URUNDI

PRÉSIDENT : A. MOELLER DE LADDERSOUS
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28, RUE DE LA PUTTERIE - BRUXELLES

September 23, 1955
REF FD FVB

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MR. FREUDENBERG
311, GRAND NATIONAL BLDGS

LISBONNE :
MR. MULDERS
PRAÇA DA ALEGRIA, 58

LONDRES :
MR. MERTZ
167, REGENT STREET W I

LOURENÇO MARQUES
MR. JORGE DE ABREU
CAIXA POSTAL 1148

MADRID :
MR. J. O. BOULLON
CALLE DE ALCALA, 129

NAIROBI :
SABENA
GOVERNMENT ROAD
P. O. BOX 3708

OSLO :
MR. TAMENNE
15, KONGENSGATE

PARIS :
MR. KRUCHTEN
14, RUE DU 4 SEPTEMBRE

STOCKOLM :
MR. EYKENS
GREVGATAN, 8

U. S. A.
BUREAUX SABENA
SAN FRANCISCO - LOS ANGELES
CHICAGO - DETROIT
DALLAS
BUREAU PRINCIPAL A NEW-YORK
SABENA, 422, MADISON AVENUE

CORRESPONDANTS :

LE CAIRE :
MR. HERMAND
HELIOPOLIS PALACE

MOMBASA :
FOURWAYS TRAVEL SERVICE
STATION ROAD
P. O. BOX 1173

Waldo L.SCHMITT, esq.,
Head Curator - Department of Zoology
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
U.S.National Museum
WASHINGTON 25 U.S.A.- O W S

for the supply of :

one copy of the ancient Hamitic King
doms of Central Africa at ..... Belgian Fcs 75.--
cost of post .. 7.--

82.--

Certified to be correct and true and closed for the amount of :

EIGHTY TWO BELGIAN FRANCS or its equivalent in shillings.

Marchandises intended for exportation :
free from tax

Payment cash.

$2.00

Provinces and Territories

(Carte Routière
Touring Club du Congo Belge.

Off. du Tourime du Congo Belge
et du Ruanda Urundi

Filed: Belgian Congo

September 14, 1955

Air Letter

Off. du Tourime du Congo Belge
et du Ruanda Urundi
87 rue de la Loi
Bruxelles, Belgium

Gentlemen:

I would appreciate obtaining a copy of the tourist map that you published, showing the ancient Hamitic Kingdoms of Central Africa. If there is any charge for the map kindly bill me for it.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:vb

Enroute Karhtoum
June 3/55.

Overseas Touring Co., P.O. Box 167
Kampala, Uganda

Gentleman, and especially the lady with whom I, Waldo L. Schmitt of the National Museum conversed regarding the chests and crates to be forwarded to the Smithsonian Institution via U.S. Despatch Agent, 45 Broadway New York.

You will do me a very great favor if you will communicate the total weight of the shipment, 9 wooden chests and 3 crates (containing black floor telescope cases strapped) to Miss Helena Weiss, Chief of Correspondence and Records, U.S. National Museum, Washington 25, D.C., U.S.A. An air mail post card would do, but it should be done promptly because this information is needed to close the year's books. Our fiscal year ends June 30th and as the shipment was initiated before that date, the collect shipment should be paid from current funds held out for the purpose. Re the 33 schilling refund on sealed guns (deposit) If you cannot collect refund, send the receipt back to me at Washington. Too late I realized that they were packed in one of crates and so not easy to get at. I can always get certification from U.S. Customs officials regardin

their having left Uganda in their original wrapping and Seals. If you do get refund take out any air postage you expend in my behalf otherwise I'll return it to you in some form from the States after my personal return there about July 1.

Sincerely
[illegible]

I appreciate your interest in the matter, and am grateful to Mr. Thornton Dailly for putting me in touch with you,

مطبعة خلف

مصلحة التلغرافات والتليفونات المصرية

إشارة تلغرافية
TELEGRAM

ختم المكتب

إلى To Sorry Lorton
Hotel Texas
Texas

ارسل الى
رقم القيد
الوقت
المعطى

ورد من
رقم القيد 149
الوقت 1.25 am
الآخذ MEC

طريق
ملاحظات Ro

وقت 0950
تاريخ 8/6
كلمات 25
رقم اصلى 68

مكتب التصدير Bahrain
Office of origin

British customs request extra
number and export licence two
pistols now lying in mom-Raisa
stop send documents urgently

Thornton

انشروا اعلاناتكم فى هذا المكان فى الرسائل البرقية التى يطبع منها ملايين كثيرة
الاستعلام : اتصلوا بالسكرتارية العامة بمصلحة التلغرافات والتليفونات ـ تليفون ٧٩٠٧٩

Customs
P.E.A.

I am in receipt of a telegram from Mr. E. Thornton Pailly which reads "... Customs request serial numbers and export licence two pistols now lying in Mombassa stop and documents urgently."

I have no documents other than a receipt for 33 shillings which I paid your agent at the border when I crossed from the Belgian Congo to Uganda on my way to Mbarra and Entebbe from Gabiro (B.C.). This agent an East Indian and a very pleasant and helpful gentleman to save us future trouble sealed these collecting pistols in paper tied with twine to which was attached a lead, official seal, saying we could collect our 33 schillings

when we left the Territory. It so happens that we went one way on to Juba and our collecting outfit and specimens another.

The Overseas Touring Co, P.O. Box 167, Kampala, Uganda, E.A. undertook the shipment for me and as Mr. Thornton's agent. I turned over to them the (your customs officers receipt for the 33 shillings; that's why I have nothing to send you. I have no serial numbers for the pistols they are "marble game getters" so called about 18 inch smooth bore bbls, one to each pistol one 22 guage, the other 410. If you cant let guns go with shipment in bond so to speak to N.Y. and Washington D.C. where somebody from your Embassy there can certify to their return to America you will have to remove them from the blade in crate, lid screwed on telescope case in which they are packed and hold them until I get back to the States. The reason

I could not do more personally about the shipment is because I had to make a Nile boat leaving Juba May 29. and as I fly home from Cairo, I packed up all most of my papers for shipment to Washington surface mail to save weight in hand baggage. This is the best I can do now and here, hold the pistols if you must, they were merely in transit officially sealed by your agent. But if you remove them from the crate and case in which they are packed please see that rest of contents are carefully repacked to guard against breakage

If you please,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
U.S. National Museum
Washington 25, D.C.
U.S.A.

Such Belgian transit documents as I had were returned to Mr. Robt McGregor Amer. Consul General, Leopoldville as he set up the committee against removing of gear from country (B.C.) but he did not have serial nos of pistols either, which should be located at time

Dear Mrs Paddy, As you will see from the date line we are moving rapidly along. However I doubt if this gets mailed much before Khartoum. Aside from the questions raised regarding the Thornton account there will be several rebates due me, and I'll need them. First of all when we got to Entebbe the air-line had no knowledge of us, or of requested reservations, so in effect we were stranded. Fortunately we managed to get there a day ahead of schedule which gave us time to row with air-line without success, to dicker for a charter plane, which was found not air worthy and finally to hire a car to take us to Juba about 500 miles away. It worked out fine, had a nice ride, saw more of the country than we expected and found excellent roads. And I know of those before I would never have considered that Entebbe-Juba air hop. That's the first rebate due us; the second is for meals and lodgings at the Juba Hotel, these I had to pay, and for the payment I have a receipt. Next up will be meals on the Nile boat, which I pay at Shellal when we get there. The man who quoted prices for the Juba, at least upper Nile services, Mr.

Mr. Joseph Inglizi of Gellatly, Pankey and Co., (Sudan) Ltd, P.O. Box 51, Juba, Equatoria, couldn't do too much for us. He had quoted prices to N.Y. to Amintra, 30 Rockefeller Center N.Y. 20, last April saying that payment would have to be made in advance but never heard anything more about matter from anyone till we showed up.

The hotel bill & meals amounts to P.T. 8,140 (something better than $25. The Juba-Shellal meals for the four of us will approximate $75, but all these things we can straighten out at home if you have not already paid for them. It will be difficult to iron out double payments if made. Thought I could get all on 1 folder, but need the

Mrs Paddy, (letter omitted) Our rail and boat fares, at least to Khartoum have been taken care of by Mr. Babiker El Nur Mustafa, River Agent, Sudan Railways, Juba, Sudan, an estimable gentleman, deep swarthy black, who knows his business and speaks excellent English; he gave us our tickets on the steamer and rail from Juba and Shella), the money for sleeper accommodations on train from Kosti to Khartoum (1 £ each = £4) and from Khartoum to Wadi Halfa (2 £ each for 3 = £6). Beyond Khartoum I expect someone else to take over. Everything except the flight from Entebbe to Juba has gone off as planned. We've been well fed, and happy, and healthy, and have had a generally good time. Would not have missed any of it for the world. This Nile trip is a bit on the warm side, but restful and easy going after our strenuous 50 days or so in the Congo. (You might say just what the Dr. ordered.) The Juba hotel was worth a week's stay, wish now we had planned for it. I wouldn't mind doing it over again, though with what I know now we could do it even better. Our experiences have proved very much worthwhile and may be of use to you for any future trips down this way. If I could raise the wind, I'd

come back next year or even this Fall and stay longer. Everything has proved better than expected except one or two hotels along the route, but those we could have skipped had we know what we know now.

I guess I should have addressed this both to you and Mr. Cowan but you both will understand

I do want to look over your (the AAA file of correspondence with Thornton not to crab or kick but to get the straight of some of his charges and the dates of our (your acceptance of his several proposals. Remember I don't care what AAA commission is or was reasonable, with Kittler a real bargain and the price trip. Best ever to you all, Walda Schmidt

Astrida
May 22/54

Dear Mrs Paddy and Mr. Cowan,

First of all I want to thank Mrs Paddy for her two letters. Both were most welcome. We are moving along at such a rate that mail is infrequent and there's little time to reply. // We've enjoyed good health, seen very little rain, very few flies and/or mosquitoes, have not suffered from the heat and have had uniformally cool and comfortable nights. Yes the Congo is a place to conjure with if you take your antimalaria pills, watch the water you get to drink (carry your own canteen and dope for water in it), and go easy or refrain from uncooked foods to a considerable extent. I think Uvira, at north end of Lake Tanganyika about the best place yet, - regular Southern California climate, sun, and Foot hill Blvd scenery. It's hard to believe your in Africa and not in the L.A. area. (if you look upon the lake as the ocean at your door.

Re Thornton and the guide business we had a very friendly amicable talk about it but could not agree on dates of some of

letters and estimates and he did not produce his file. When I return, about June 28, 29 or 30, I would like to examine the file that you or New York office must have. In fact I could drop by N.Y. here on way home. I have no kick on any fees or commissions, those we expect and gladly pay. We had but one man, European driver in passenger car as Thornton advertises, and no special guide otherwise.

Give yourselves no present concern about the matter. I hear that usually not more than 2/3 cost of trip is paid to people like Thornton until trip is over and settled up. When final third is paid Thornton is decent sort and says he wants to do right thing but that matter of guide aside or in the person of driver or car in the letters he wrote AAA. I know it will work out to everyones satisfaction when all returns are in. My best to you folks. It's a grand trip anyway you cut it.

Mrs. Schm

Yangambi
Belgian Congo
Apr. 24/55

Dear Mrs Paddy and Mr Corran,

Some question has arisen in my mind about this guide business. You may recall I had my doubts in Washington about it. I gather now that when you "buy" ~~hire~~ your self a car for party and tour, a European driver is provided, this Thornton does, and I'm sure English speaking ones. [I've talked about it, casually with the man that's driving our passenger car; a black man drives the truck]. Well, when I had my doubts, we got a quotation on a "guide", hoping to get Thornton who had been with Mark Evans. The price quoted was $25 a day, and I fell for it. Thornton couldn't come and ~~provided~~ would provide, he wrote a substitute.

Well, when ~~I~~ this getting underway here we have a European (Swede) chauffer-~~driver~~ guides, or guide, both in one man. It strikes me that Thornton should have replied to our inquiry, that with his competent chauffer-drivers or guides a separate or extra guide is not necessary. I ~~feel~~ that he was less than frank about the matter. Anyway, I plan to have a talk with him when we get to Bukavu his headquarters,

I shall to raise no issues now, and not until arrangements have been completed for shipping our outfit home from Kampala (just before Entebbe) I feel convinced that the guide we bought separately was a double charge for a service already included in the four per person charge. I write at this time to enquire if you have yet paid him (Thornton) in full, maybe you don't pay him at all but some one else first. Any way without showing my hand to Thornton I was wondering if he could not be paid in two instalments, hold something like a thousand buck (2,000?), I don't know. He did mention, he had not been paid anything yet, (this was a week ago). If you have paid, well and good, and I shall then depend upon him to give me a worthy and justifiable explanation, or do the decent honest thing. He may have a good "excuse", but I want to see it.

Please use utmost discretion, I do not want to embarass anyone along the line including Thornton and myself. I can't quite see how you can hold up payment for the duration of the trip, unless its customary, which I doubt, or half or p

in instalments what is due, unless it's been done in the past. I'm sure if he has been paid in full that we still can come down on the matter if my doubts are verified. He couldn't afford to come croppers with the AAA or the S.I. or Dr. Sexton who is a much travelled well connected Washingtonian himself. Thomson met us in Stanleyville and stayed around 2-3 days saying he also had some other business in town.

In asking me about our Leopoldville experiences, ~~he asked~~ when I told him that we hired Duxis to get about, "didn't you have a car full-time at your disposal." I said why no, nobody ever told me, though we did have girl guide and car for 2 half days for ~~tours~~ sightseeing listed for Leo. He added you should have had that car. So I said we are now do this and have to depend on you for help and advice, frankly what is car worth per day with chauffeur?" he said B18 a day if my ears did not deceive him & I'm sure they didn't because Duxis in Leo are 100 franc the hour around & in town they I added for the 10 days in Leo we are entitled to about 180 rebate, less the two half day ~~sightseeing~~ sightseeing trips, which should

should not be worth any more than a days car hire or little more. At least $150 should come backs to us. Yes I mention rebate he said I won't know how it has until I get billed for your stay in Leo. Also he said he had booked us for the Mewling, a really first class hotel, when we got to Leo we were met by a girl from AMI who said we had been transferred to the Palace. This must be cheaper than Mewling but I have no kick in that, I'd rather have less swank, and the Palace proved ideal for our purposes. The Palace manager would not accept payment for the mineral water and beer we bought in lieu of tap water, which struck me as funny, and I so told Thornton, well he would not know till he got his bill. That's when he added that he hadn't been paid yet either.

Give yourself no great concern about the matter, I'll have my talk with Thornton in Bukavu and work things out from there. The holding up of payment might be to distlish difficult, because I'm not yet in a position to have a show down or at least an explanation. We are living well, enjoying life and seeing things. Getting some spockens also,

Sincerely
Roland Schmi

or care of Dr Louis van den Bergh, Director, IRSAC, Lwiro (Katuna), D.S. Bukavu, Belgian Congo. Hope all goes well with you and Mr. Cowan. Our health so far has been of the best, we are doing better than expected and are looking forward with a great deal of antic[illegible] to the [illegible]

Can you read the name at the end?
Waldo L. Schmitt

Stanleyville Apr. 14/55

Dear Mrs Paddy, we are having ~~a tremendous~~ (Schmitt) a very wonderful time, seeing things, people, and places we never expected to see before. Also we are agreeably surprised at climatic conditions, so far not too hot; though very warm mid days upwards of 96° in shade on the hottest days in Leopoldville, the nights have been wonderful balmy, at times seemingly cool, 78° to 80°, almost always a light refreshing breeze. Yes you are comfortable under a sheet, and occassional reach for more. All beds are provided with a blanket of pretty good weight, believe it or not, and this is not the coolest season of the year.

In Leopoldville we did not at first know just with whom, we were dealing. We know now, since we meet Mr. Thornton - Daily here in Stanleyville after an air trip over the Congo Riv- er basin and its miles upon miles of forest, at times unbroken as far as the eye could reach. We take to the autos from here out, and shall be less troubled with moving our impedimenta (or shall) ~~we are~~ dealing

I write at this time to enquire with whom are with regard to the Nile trip. When Mr. Thornton drops us at the air port, I believe he is through. Subena or some agent of Subena will be responsible for landing us by air in Juba where we catch the Nile steamer, but other than the itinerary you furnished us we have nothing to show that we are entitled to passage down the river. I have no doubt that its all arranged, cut and dried, but should there be some hitch in meeting us there we would not know where to turn. The American ~~Consul~~ Straight us out in Leopoldville. You can drop me a line to the American Consulate General, Leopoldville, Belgian Congo, or (see above

February 7, 1956

Dr. Alexander Petrunkevitch
165 Prospect St.
New Haven 11, Conn.

Dear Dr. Petrunkevitch:

To think that I am so late in thanking you for your kindness in giving me a name for that Congo tarantula, of which I sent you a photograph!

These days most everybody is too busy to keep up his friendships, and I am all the more embarrassed by your industry when I realize that you took time out to write me the fine letter you did on December 1st. You in your 81st year are setting us a stremuous pace, and knowing what you have produced in the past, we are looking forward with a great deal of anticipation to the publication of your study of the amber spiders. Naturally, we shall all be rooting for you to complete the contemplated book on the evolution of spiders. It will be a fine capstone to the edifice that you have built up in that field. I particularly appreciate that last word of yours, that quotation from Mark Twain, the state of perfection in which he remembers things which never happened. That is as equitable a statement as I have heard in recent years, and I have lots of fun with it inasmuch as I am one of the old boys around this institution.

Regrettably, I did not make Atlanta either. I hope the next meeting will find us both present. I do want to see you again and have a chat with you.

Good luck and best wishes always,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLschmitt:cek

Petrunkevitch, Dr. Alexander

YALE UNIVERSITY
OSBORN ZOOLOGICAL LABORATORY
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

165 Prospect St.
New Haven 11, Conn.

December 1 - 1955

Dr.Waldo L.Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology
U.S.National Museum
Washington,25,D.C.

Dear Dr.Schmitt:

The spider, a photograph of which you sent me with a request for its identification, probably belongs to the Genus Scodra of which there are about 12 species in French Congo and Liberia, the most common species being S.calcarata. All Scodras have hairy feet, live in forests and mostly on trees. However, as you know, the identification of tarantulae is more difficult even than the identification of arachnomorph spiders, and that applies to specimens in the hand. When it comes to photographs, no matter how excellent, identification, to say the least, is only tentative, based on nothing but the "looks" of the creature.

I am not going to Atlanta, but will be most probably in Washington in April at the meetings of the National Academy. If you will be in Washington at that time I shall make a special effort to see you and to have the pleasure of a nice chat with you as of old days. By then I shall be in my 81st year, but I work daily in the lab until 6 P.M. and have just finished a study of amber spiders and begin putting the manuscript in shape for publication. It is a fairly large paper as it covers two large and five small European collections. On completion of this work I shall study the Cretaceous arachnids and then write a book on Evolution of Spiders:an analysis, in which I propose to assemble all available data with many figures and an outline of the relative value of available facts for the construction of a natural classification.

Of course, this work can be done only if my health holds out and my brain does not deterirate meanwhile, nor my memory reaches the state of perfection when, as Mark Twain said, one remembers even things which have never happened. Being an irreligious man and a trained scientist I am sufficiently supersticeous to KNOCK ON WOOD, because I have seen just that happen to some unfortunate men.

Hoping that you are in good health and wishing you satisfaction in winding up your work connected with the Congo expedition, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Alexander Petrunkevitch

Alexander Petrunkevitch
Emeritus Professor of Zoology

November 28, 1955

Dr. Alexander Petrunkevitch
Yale University
New Haven, Connecticut

Dear Dr. Petrunkevitch:

Here is the picture of a cocoa colored "tarantula" with dark chocolate spots. This is just about natural size and we met with it at the Yangambi Agricultural Research Station on the Congo River a few hours run from Stanleyville. Have you any idea what it is or have you seen anything just like it before? We do not have the specimen. We just had a chance to look at a very handsome specimen and apparently it was the only one in the collection at the time.

I wish that I might have brought it to you personally for I have not seen you for altogether too long a time. It is this very trip to the Congo that will keep me from going to Atlanta. There are too many things to wind up in connection with that expedition in which I had the pleasure of participating last April, May, and June.

I trust that all goes well with you and yours and that you are still enjoying your laboratory in the University. I shall never forget the write-up that was given you and your environment in the New Yorker a little while back.

Good luck and best wishes,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Enc.
WLS:vb

INSTITUT POUR LA
RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE
EN AFRIQUE CENTRALE

INSTITUUT VOOR
WETENSCHAPPELIJK ONDERZOEK
IN CENTRAAL AFRIKA

Congo belge

Lwiro (Katana) 22nd April, 1955
D.S. Bukavu.-

Dear Sir,

We send you to day the Taxidermist KITWA Emmanuel.

We have ordered him to stay with you and help you, all the time you need him and we hope that he will be helpfull to you.

His pay is 2000 (two thousand francs) a month and in addition he has to get 20 francs a day because he is on safari.

May we suggest you to pay him every Sunday 7 x 20 frs =140 francs and every two weeks 1000 francs ? He will thus be enable to buy some food.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours.

P. PIERAERTS
Chef de Poste.

Dr. W.I. SCHMITT
Smithsonian Institution
STANLEYVILLE.

Pirlot, Dr. P. L.

AIR LETTER

July 25, 1956

Dr. P. L. Pirlot
I.R.S.A.C.
Lwiro (Katana) D. S. Bukavu
Belgian Congo

Dear Dr. Pirlot:

Greetings to you, your wife, and youngsters, and also to our mutual friends at the Institut.

I want to thank you for the several reprints of your studies that you have sent me and also this last publication on the Rongeurs du Congo Belge which was enclosed with the last number of your Folia Scientifica Africae Centralis.

We enjoyed your visit ever so much and hope that you folks may be coming back soon again.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:eek

Re Customs

March 11, 1955

The Honorable Leon Pitillon
Governor General
Belgian Congo
Leopoldville, Africa

Sir:

The Smithsonian Institution is sponsoring the Smithsonian-Bredin Expedition to the Belgian Congo for the purpose of collecting and studying primarily the invertebrate life of the region: the parasitic mites and ticks and their host plants and animals, such as rodents, shrews, bats, and perhaps in some cases, unprotected small birds; the crustacea, terrestrial and aquatic, as well as other arthropods, shells, fish taken at the various native fisheries, and such herpetological specimens as may be permitted.

The expeditionary party that we plan to send will consist of four people: Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt of this Institution, carcinologist, and party leader, Dr. Edward Baker of the United States Department of Agriculture, Dr. Roy Lyman Sexton, medical consultant to the party, and his son Roy Lyman Sexton, Jr., who with his father will also serve as the official photographers of the expedition. Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Bredin of Wilmington, Delaware, who have made this biological field work possible have very recently found it impossible to take part in the expedition at the outset as originally planned, but have high hopes of being able to join it at a somewhat later date.

The Institution has also communicated with Dr. Van Straelen, Président de l'Institut des Parcs Nationaux du Congo Belge, and for local advices with various members of the staffs of your Government's research laboratories in the Belgian Congo who are known to our scientists, especially Dr. J. B. Jadin, Dr. Louis van den Berg, Dr. Maurice Le Comte, also Dr. F. Matange and Mr. Bredo.

It so happens that the party will fly from Leopoldville to Stanleyville, which necessitates sending the heavier collecting equipment to Stanleyville by river steamer in advance of their arrival there on April 17. The American Consul has been asked to expeditie this shipment of 12 boxes upon its arrival in Matad, aboard the Belgian African Line Steamer, "Steenstraete" leaving New York on March 12. If there are any customs formalities to be observed we hope

that they may be attended to in Stanleyville so that the very essential collecting gear will be available from Stanleyville onward. Without it field work would be most seriously handicapped.

Any courtesies or other assistance that you could extend the members of this Smithsonian Expedition would be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Leonard Carmichael
Secretary

Waldo L. Schmitt:edw

June 22, 1955

Mrs. Porter
Porter Studios and Photo Supplies
104 N. Washington
Falls Church, Virginia

Dear Mrs. Porter:

Miss Beets has told me of your phone conversation on June 21 regarding the black and white film of the Smithsonian expedition. I am sending you herewith the following film.

Rolls of 120:

Nos. 13 through 17 and Nos. 19 through 26

Safety Film Pack, PX523

No. 18

We request developing only, with no prints, for these sixteen rolls and one film pack.

Please notify us when the negatives are ready and we will send a messenger for the material.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert Friedmann
Acting Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

P. S. The bill should be made to "The Smithsonian Fund for Belgian Congo Expedition, Attn. Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt."

Film delivered by messenger.

MB:

9/23/ Jamie NA Tur Room DCP Rm 163 new State

August 5, 1955

Ext. 3696

Mr. David A. Robinson (left State)
Mail Room
State Department
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Robinson:

I believe you have one additional package of film for me or the Smithsonian from the American Consulate General in Leopoldville, Belgian Congo. Will you not please let the bearer of this note have it for delivery to me here at the National Museum. The favor will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

WLS:vb

Carino

August 3, 1955

Mr. David A. Robinson
Mail Room
State Department
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Robinson:

Yesterday evening Mr. Samsell told me you had several packages addressed to the Smithsonian Institution containing film forwarded from the American Consulate General, Leopoldville, Belgian Congo.

Will you not kindly let bearer have these packages for delivery to me here at the National Museum.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

W.S:vb

Ross, Dr. Edward S.

Africa

March 15, 1957

AIR MAIL

Dr. Edward S. Ross
California Academy of Sciences
Golden Gate Park
San Francisco 18, Calif.

Dear Dr. Ross:

You are giving me too much of your time. I was only glad to do all that you have thanked me for in your letter of March 11.

I am glad that you bring up the matter of animals while sleeping out evenings. I doubt if you will have much trouble considering the much traveled roads and the smell of the auto. But there have been attacks from time to time from unarmed people traveling at night. I noticed all natives go armed, most of them with spears and now and then with bow and arrow. I recall well one evening when we were driving rather late and passed a woman running crying along the road that our guide Oscar said to us: "They must have had a death in the family and that is the way she is expressing her grief," adding that "it was a risky thing to do because some leopard might get her." One other instance recounted to me at Gangala-na-Bodio: They had two pet giraffes, beautiful pair, and shortly before we had gotten there the female had been killed by a leopard that had jumped on her neck from a tree. On the other hand, leopard skins these days are rather hard to come by; they are not as plentiful as they used to be, and indeed, in the native dances where they wear ample for dress and ornament, textiles have been substituted. But I frankly do not know what the risks and dangers are. I could talk around the subject a bit more here, but I may be seeing you in San Francisco, where I am due on the 22nd of this month. In any case, the best of good wishes and good luck on your forthcoming safari. ?

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:eek

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
GOLDEN GATE PARK : SAN FRANCISCO 18, CALIFORNIA
TELEPHONE BAYVIEW 1-5100

THE SCIENCE MUSEUM
THE ALEXANDER F. MORRISON PLANETARIUM
THE STEINHART AQUARIUM

March 11, 1957

Dr. Waldo Schmitt
Smithsonian Institution
U.S. National Museum
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Dr. Schmitt:

I hasten to thank you for the vast amount of practical information you have sent. I was trying to keep you from going to so much trouble but now would hate to think of being without your contributions. For example, I think that it will be well for us to build in an auxillary gas tank on the load behind the truck cab.

I had already written to van den Berghe and van Straelen about my plans and both seemed to be very much interested, espescially in the educational value of the photography. I had hoped to get some support in the form of a Fulbright Award but to date only succeeded in reaching the status of an "alternate candidate" which seems to be regretable in view of the thousands of dollars I stood ready to contribute on my side of the arrangement. I may yet gain such status but, in the meantime, have had to assume that I would not get the grant. To get ship passage I had to make arrangements well in advance and thus may have to forfeit some of the advantages of such a grant. Our sailing is now scheduled for May 29 and the next available space would have been after September.

I was aware that accomodations are very good in the Congo but we prefer whenever possible to stay in the "bush." Quite often we stayed only a short distance away from good hotels, missions, etc. in the Andes simply so that a minimum of time would be lost in social contacts, pleasant though they may be. We also take ~~but~~ the least possible time in getting meals out of the way and getting back to collecting and other field activities which continue far into the night with our lights the only ones shining for mile around. I suppose that there are many places in Africa where one is not safe afoot at night. Our plan is to be equipped to stay in the field whenever possible or safe but to use other lodgings if there is good reason for doing so.

If, in your travels, you heard any word that one is in danger of attack by animals while sleeping in a tent at cab-top level on a truck, I would find this of interest. If there is any danger, I suppose that this would vary from place to place.

Again, let me thank you for your most important information. On our part, we will try to get freshwater Crustacea for you. We hope to do quite a lot of aquatic insect work and try some underwater light traps in various places.

Sincerely,

Edward S. Ross

March 5, 1957

AIR MAIL

Dr. Edward S. Ross
Curator of Insects
California Academy of Sciences
Golden Gate Park
San Francisco 18, Calif.

Dear Dr. Ross:

I am certainly glad that you are getting the chance to go to the Belgian Congo. You will enjoy it and live well doing it, but, first of all, look through your medicine chest, even though many whites live there very happily and healthfully. Be sure to take Chloroquine for malaria, two tablets once a week, beginning two weeks before you start and continuing for two weeks after you return. This is a sure preventive. Also take Achromycin. This is a cure for amoebic dysentery and helps with other dysenteries too. One doctor told me, however, it is like taking a hammer to kill a fly if you do not have the serious amoebic dysentery. Bactricidin (or Burrows-Welcome Polyfax) is excellent for minor infections. I prefer the former, but the latter which I had to buy in the West Indies seemed to work equally well. Have canteens for your drinking water which you can safely and should sterilize with a preparation that we used throughout, Tetraglycine Hydroperiodide tablets (Wallace and Tiernan Inc., Bellville 9, New Jersey) 1 to a quart of water. Doctor from whom we got it said 2 would render same quantity of water sewage effluent (or ? sewage) safe to drink. Be sure to get a supply of these tablets. Do not forget to take some polyvalent antivenon. Through a bit of carelessness I was bitten by an adder, but we had no antivenon with us. Fortunately, we were able to obtain some from a nearby National Park superintendent.

Our experience with roads was mostly in the eastern Congo. We flew from Leopoldville to Stanleyville to save time, though originally we had planned to do it by auto. It can be done and is done by auto trucks all the time, also auto buses. Being there through April and May, we encountered very little rain. I believe I used my raincoat once, but several times we escaped wetting during showers that occurred while we were driving from one place to another. All roads, except in a few of the places are dirt roads, but are kept in fairly good condition most of the time. I do not know just how they are in the jungle regions, if there are passable roads there at all (see the map herewith) in the rainy season. This automobile route map for the Belgian Congo is a wonderful one and so very good that when you are

flying over the country, as we did, from Leo to Stanley, you can locate towns below.

Now as to autos, I am sending you a few miserable snaps which show our group with auto and truck. We too had a 1-1/2 ton truck with all gear that pretty well filled up to the gunwhales, because we carried along two drums of gasoline that we had not expected to carry when I planned our outfit, one at each front corner of the truck. There is some money saved in carrying the gas, and also on one occasion we had need of it on a long haul, but gas can be frequently bought through the Congo. Likewise sleeping accommodations can be had most everywhere within a day's drive, if not at commercial hotels, at the various missions the Belgian Government issues a map for each of the Protestant missions and I believe also for the Catholic missions. This series of maps may be available to you either at the Academy or in Berkeley. I have the Protestant mission map and some others of interest in folders about 14 inches square. As I looked in the Atlas Générale du Congo I found this little price-list which you may need if you want to order any.

Of the hotels the Belgians also publish a list. I am sending you a copy that I used. You probably can get a more recent one from the Belgian Tourist Bureau, 422 Madison Avenue, New York. Don't fail to get a copy of their "Travelers Guide to the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi;" it costs $5.00. They were unable to furnish me with the auto map. I bought mine in Africa. You are welcome to it but with the understanding that some day you will replace it. I learned of it from Victor Cahalane, who made a trip to the National Parks Service.

Coming back to the truck, there are all manner of autos and trucks in the Congo, but the people with whom we dealt, a Mr. Thornton Daily of Bukavu, guide and arranger of touring parties, said that he thought service for Fords was more often available than for other makes of American cargo. I am inclined to advise your camping out in a tent on your truck. Hotel accommodations are reasonable and good most everywhere you go, but, of course, when you do get very far off the beaten track you will have to take care of yourselves. It is well to make arrangements with guest houses and hotels in advance, by wire, telephone, or mail. All these services were good the several times we used them. We found no serious congestion except at Niangara when two of our party had to sleep away from the 3rd rate hotel there, but they were most cordially welcomed by an American Protestant mission nearby.

Be sure and get a copy of the Guide and get in touch with local missions through some of your "church" friends in California or at the Academy.

If you have any questions I have overlooked or failed to answer,

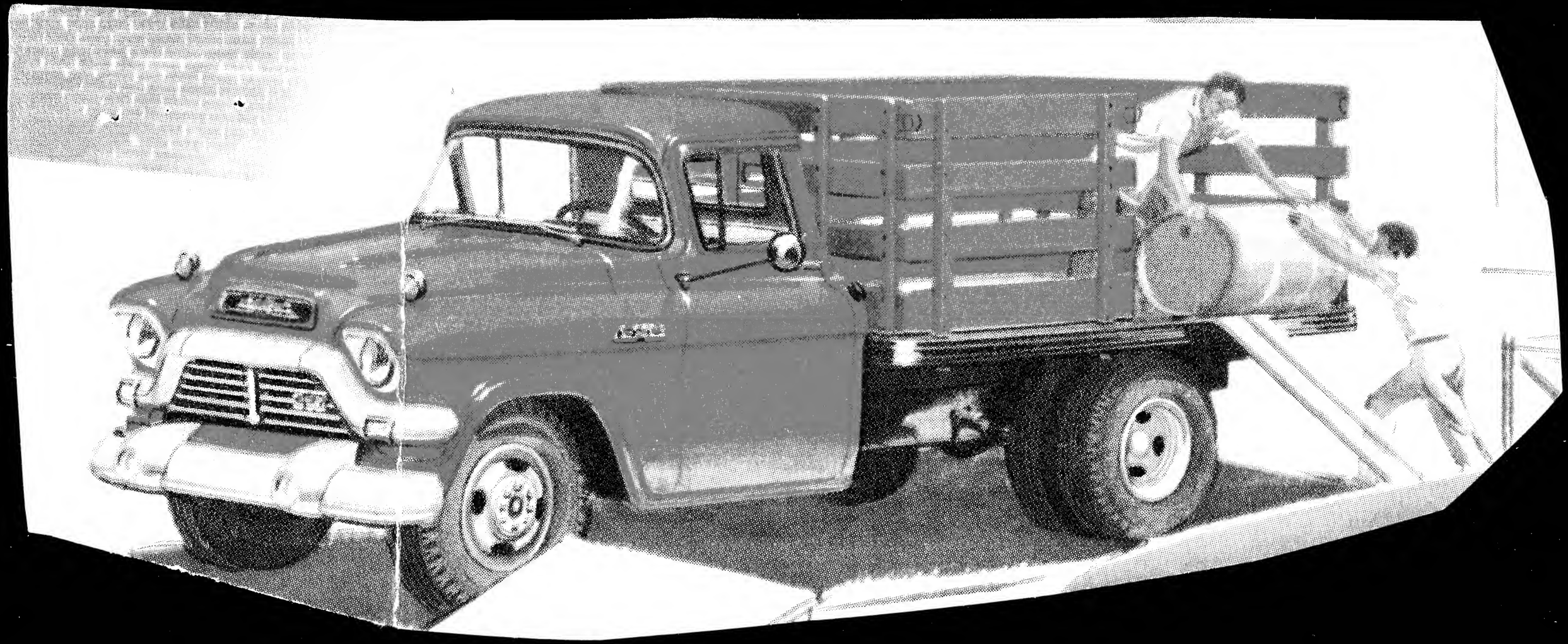
fire them at me at once. I shall be at the Academy a few hours on March 22nd. Leave for Tahiti on the MARIPOSA the next day.

For us fresh water shrimp and crabs,--but lay off as you will have neither containers, alcohol or formalin enough,-- also pictures of shrimp fishing and traps. Water was too high when we went east from Stanleyville and so natives were not trapping or fishing shrimp (would like to go back some time in the dryest period).

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Encl.
WLS:eek



k to suit driver's comfort—Two-tone interior for unexcelled beauty
t collect—Non-glare instrument panel to avoid annoying reflections
easy operation and driver's safety.

air—even in wet weather, The high, grilled intake, just below the wind-
if any, is separated and drained off through floor of plenum chamber
ch side of cab.

Deluxe Models include such extra features as blue, green or
rown two-tone interior harmonizing with exterior colors; driver's
dditional sun visor on passenger side; stainless steel
oldings; and chrome grille, bumper,

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

GOLDEN GATE PARK : SAN FRANCISCO 18, CALIFORNIA

TELEPHONE BAYVIEW 1-5100

THE SCIENCE MUSEUM

THE ALEXANDER F. MORRISON PLANETARIUM

THE STEINHART AQUARIUM

March 1, 1957

Dr. Waldo Schmitt
U.S. National Museum
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Dr. Schmitt:

It has been some time since we have communicated and much has happened since then. Perhaps we can catch up on news during some future personal contact. In the meantime I have a question to ask.

I note that you conducted an expedition to the Congo. This is of interest because I will be departing for the same region during June of this year. Through my lectures I have attracted sufficient private funds to make this trip possible and to extend it for about a nine-month period (six months in the Congo and about 3 months in a quick survey of pertinent life zones in east an southeastern Africa). Africa appears to be the richest area in the world for my Embioptera and the trip will round out my world monograph which is being carried on with NSF help. Also, I will try my candid photographic technique on African insect subjects.

I am writing mainly for advise on transportation. We are planning to outfit a ton-and-one-half GMC ~~GMC~~ truck and ship it to Matadi. This will be compartmented for efficient loading and the top surface will be rigged as a high and dry platform for our tent. As in the Andes, we want to be able to stay where we want to work in wilderness areas. We often go for weeks without purchasing lodgings or meals.

I am wondering about the suitability of such a truck. Perhaps by merely mentioning the type of road difficulties one encounters I would know the answer to this question. For example, are there many deep river fords? How large were the trucks commonly using the roads, raft ferries, and bridges? Did you encounter many situations where four-wheel drive was essential? I enclose a cutout of the type of truck we are about to acquire. Perhaps a simple answer to the above questions will be word that such vehicles were commonly seen during your trip.

Do you have any specific missions we can accomplish for you?

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Edward S. Ross

Edward S. Ross
Curator of Insects

de Saeger, Dr. H.
Filed: Belgian Congo Follow Up

October 5, 1955

also Georges Nuyten
address in book.

Air Letter

Dr. H. de Saeger
Secrétaire du Comité de Direction
Institut des Parcs Nationaux du Congo Belge
Rue Montoyer, 21, Bruxelles, Belgium

Dear Dr. de Saeger:

Thank you for your good letter of September 9 and the addresses of the conservateurs of your National Parks who were so helpful to me and the members of our party. I could enjoy being there and with them at this very moment. The Congo is a very wonderful part of the world, and the National Parks the best part of it.

Although Dr. Baker also received a copy of that list of unidentified insects when we called on you in Brussels, I wanted our own division of insects to have a copy on file. Between our two organizations working together we shall probably be able to do more for you than otherwise. The more people who know of the groups needing attention the better.

Getting identifications these days is a slow matter, but sooner or later some specialist here will want to see more material in some group listed by you, and then we'll make headway.

I thank you again for the list and the addresses.

With kind regards to you and yoursstaff at Rue Montoyer,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:vb

ROYAUME DE BELGIQUE

INSTITUT
DES
PARCS NATIONAUX
DU CONGO BELGE

DIRECTION

BRUXELLES, le 9 septembre 1955
Rue Montoyer, 21
Télégr. : PARCNAT

N° .....
(à rappeler dans la réponse)

Cher Monsieur Schmitt,

Je vous remercie de votre aimable lettre du 30 août, ainsi que du chèque en paiement des frais occasionnés par l'enregistrement cinématographique de M. G.FELIX.

Je ne manquerai pas de soumettre à M. NUYTEN, lors de son retour de congé, vos appréciations sur votre passage à Bruxelles.

Il m'a été très agréable d'apprendre que votre voyage au Congo Belge s'est effectué dans les meilleures conditions. En vue de vous permettre d'adresser une lettre personnelle aux différents représentants de l'Institut qui vous ont prêté assistance lors de votre séjour, une liste d'adresses est jointe en annexe.

D'autre part, vous trouverez sous ce pli la liste des collections d'insectes disponibles pour étude. Tous les spécimens d'animaux invertébrés, en dehors des insectes, ont été confiés à des spécialistes pour détermination.

Veuillez croire, cher Monsieur Schmitt, en l'expression de mes sentiments distingués et dévoués.

H.DE SAEGER.
Secrétaire du Comité de Direction.

à Monsieur Waldo SCHMITT
Smithsonian Institution
United States National Museum

WASHINGTON 25, D.C.
==========
U.S.A.

Pardon the address envelope its one I hand ready in my brief case B

April 28/55
Stanleyville.

Dear Mr Saeger, It seems months since I saw you in Brussels, and much has been seen and happened in the meantime. The Belgian Congo is both wonder and surprizing — and the marvels you have accomplished here are beyond description.

I write to thank you and Dr. van Straelen for everything, and at this moment especially the electric iron for sealing the plastic bags and tubes. It is safely here. With this I send you a bank draft for 1,029 to cover cost and shipping.

No I did leave 600 frcs. with Mr. Felix the photographer against the cost of the iron, but that can be placed against the cost of the film he took of Dr van Straelen and us, and at the airport. The weather has been good to us, very cool evenings and practically no rain during the day, with but one exception, so far, and that for 1/2 day only.

My best regards to you and your colleagues and tell him I had write a good letter

Sincerely
Walter Saeger

May 22/55

Dear Stummy, Writing in auto over bumpy roads is not so hot — hard to read too. But here in the Uvira Hydrobiological station I've had the best time, and best anticipating of the trip. The man in charge could almost be Bob Luz' brother same type and color, & just as friendly and helpful. Had I known what I know now I would have put considerable time in here. This is out furthest South and from here out we head N. and for home; Cairo, Cannes, New York. I hate to say how glad I am to start home no bed of roses, and had it not been 3 full days in Uvira & Paris at the others been half so happy as I am now. Now look any one in the face. We have a num fish specimens, some rare crustacea (rare fairly common here, and several bats. I'm sure Dave Johnson and Schultz will be pleased. Failed to get a large Tanganyika turtle for want of big enough tank to pickle it in. I'm sure you'd love this very love part of Africa too, indeed the highlight and climax of a pretty strenuous trip. I'm sure the Bredin's would have enjoyed this part of Africa as much as I have. The Sth. has also a 40 ft. motor boat from which we did a little dredging, more for practice taking than for specimens. It's all like Tortugas and Calif. rolled in one. Part of it (the road and country here) is for all the world like Foothill Blvd stretch out of L.A. (Sierra Madre country) even down to appearance of vegetation, trees and palms, etc, and like Calif. is semi-arid where any thing but water grows. You could learn to

like it here, except — you have to take anti malaria drugs all the time as we do, two pills a week (at same time) and watch step in fresh water streams. And watch drinking water, and raw food for a gainst diarrhea and amoebic dysentery. All garden spots have their short comings for at least the white man. Still I'd like to spend several months at this N. end Lake Tanganyika.

PAR AVION
VIA AIRMAIL

Mrs Mary
Villa Selvasa Lodge
Blvd Montfleury
Cannes (A.M.) France

Expéditeur:
Walds Schn. IT
Lake Victoria Hotel
Entebbe, Uganda

Premier Pli

Except for one day of watery stools, I've been in remarkably good health (I'm crossing my fingers and knocking on wood when I say this). Wish you had not been ill and hope you are still feeling as well as you said you were when you said you had recovered from that very sick spell. If you all get dysentery, amoebic or otherwise do get Aeromycin. I never again would travel without it and neither should you or Bart and family. Send my best to you and

Stanleyville, B.C.
Apr. 21 / 1955

Found this new paper here, can write on both sides. No sickness no chiahreat on part of anyone & very very few bugs of any kind. Was 76 last night & cooler in early a.m.

Dear Stummy, Just got this chance to write you these few lines waiting my turn to get a haircut here in Stanleyville haven't had one since the week before I left and may not have another chance in 20 or so days again. Yes, I'm keeping well, but not too happy so far, as I cannot land on the shrimps I hoped to get. Have a few crabs a dozen small shrimp some fish and merely a qt. of small frogs (for Miss Cochran of course). Forever I've been busier that you'll ever know, and mostly writing letters needed to promote the trip; to the American Consul to Belgium, to Bukavu up ahead to Carmichael and last but not least to Miss Weiss asking her to make provision for transportation of our outfit back from Entebbe (Kampala), our last stop before the hop to the head waters of the Nile. I look forward to that part of the trip, for it should be restful, and if I do not "rub-ber neck" too much, give me the chance to write up a few of my so far scappy notes. As leader, and responsible individual there is some excuse for not getting more specimens myself. But even so, I'm disappointed in my meager showing. Think just about a month gone, then from Juba home by way of Barbara's is another month 28th May to 27th June, which leaves little more than a month to

Carrying our stuff to Kampala for shipment home, lots of love and then some from Grandpa

collect in these parts, - too short to make a big showing unless I strike it rich. I'll have to write McCain another note. That Ginny sends me such inane stuff and I've got to get some questions answered. They let the air shipment come through collect, - darn fool thing. Why should I pay out travellers checks for a transportation expense that could have been handled cheaper and better from the Washington end. Besides the American Consul who accepted it before I got here wanted a personal check made out to Treas. U.S. and I could not write one for $609.36 as you know. Roy Sexton put up that money (wrote a check for it, on Treas. U.S.) — so I wrote Carmichael to have that much deposited to Roy's account in Wash. Think of it, I had told both Kellogg & Miss Weiss that I would pay it from the Bredin Fund after they had said the Museum couldn't afford it. But why expect me to pay it from Africa instead of U.S. funds. That else to say. Its not much different than S. Amer. in tropic parts except language, people, hotels and black population, dirt streets, all the same, - All interesting enough, and in many ways I'm glad I'm here, maybe only because despite short comings I'm now Africa experienced, more so than Friedmann the only other one who has been twice to South Africa and each time on a more limited guest. /// The big pay off will come when we get back and picture rights will be discussed but no breath of it now — for we're are still the

almost a week, but chiefly to catch up on work and packing beyond that, we'll just

over

happy family and so hard to remain. Baker's results with mites will hold up sci. work of the venture irrespective of the paucity of my own material, but Wharton would have been the better choice. Baker is selfish (or something of the sort) that makes him indifferent to needs, wants, and rights of others. And things he should have said, warned about, or suggested alway come a hour, to a day too late. It's exasperating, but here again turn the other cheek. Otherwise he's lots of fun & keeps conversation going; and we get along very well together, I have to look after him far more than he's a help to me personally. Yet I can forgive him all, for the really worthwhile collections that the mites represent. If I had been collecting mites I almost could have done as well; they are every where; every leaf & bit of ground all you need to do is pick them up with a needle, under a scope; they are that small.

So much for that we got the balance of our gear through customs; It was the first shipment that left the States on March 9, I believe! Took all afternoon, getting it thru. Had to leave a deposit of 12,000 francs to be held till we leave the country, when we shall ~~again~~ have it returned to us provided we take out of the country all the misc stuff we bring in. Customs they're wonderful! If you like them. Sat. morning early, we go to Yangambi, the big agricultural experiment station in these parts for 2 nights and the day,

go to back of page 1.

13th When we meet up with Dr. Van den Berghe's address that I sent you. There will have been a cover

This is page 4 of this letter. I'm trying to finish this after supper but I'm so sleepy I can hardly hold my eyes open.

The folks at that Kangambi station are sending an auto up for us, and will bring us back again Monday. Tuesday we finally take to the autos to start on our journey across country. Our guide is a very nice man, former ~~or~~ erstwhile Pentecostal missionary who neither drinks nor smokes yet is withal a very good sport and a very fine substantial person of 33 yrs ~~here~~ in Congo with family back in ~~B~~ Bukavu.

And a good sleep and feel more cheerful than much of the foregoing sounds. We are pushed for time and collecting, and it keeps us on the jump. I think often of you, and the bunch in Cannes and wish I could spend a day on the beach with you. There is a picture in the lobby of this Sabena guest house where we are stopping that's an exact dup of the post-card of Cannes ~~that~~ on which you could see Barb's house with a magnifier. You can well imagine how home sick it made me feel for you at the kids Barb & Bob. // The weather has been wonderful have been kept indoors just ½ day the whole time we've been in Africa. Only slight drizzles 2 forenoons that were soon over and caused us no inconvenience. So far we've hit it right & hope our luck holds rest of way. Not that we've not had any rains — several very heavy night time down pours that were over by morning except a few puddles. Do not

Look for much if any letter writing now on. We'll be pushing right along now.

Enroute Amsterdam
Leave for Brussels
shortly after landing

4/5/55

(1)

Dear Stummy, This won't be much of a letter writing "cruise". On shipboard its different and I prefer it. You can have your things laid out, and get at them whenever you want. Trains are better too, - no weight limit, but here in the air, you are crowded up against other passengers, as in busses, and usually there's not space to put your elbows when writing. However, this a.m. out of Munich my next-door seat is empty hence this note. Last night the Hasslers took Paul Weiss, of National Res. Council out to the middle-class Bavarian restaurant from which I got the enclosed folder. The varieté show must have been full of German humor for the audience raised the roof every little while — good food too, and we had beer. There was a Christl Schmitt on the program, and I asked the waitress where she was from and she said Wiesbaden. The Hasslers are here on a Fulbright for a year, up in July. They have 6 kids oldest girl 18, studying dancing + music here, I believe, down to youngest of 5 boys in 1st grade. They put their children right in the German schools. The boy in third grade shared right off with the knowledge of German and is doing well. However Mrs Hassler, is part Dutch + German + English + he's German Swiss, and she has living with them in this rented house a nephew from Wurtzburg, a German boy who at maybe 14-15 who knows or speaks no English

I wish Barb could meet the Hasslers; they could manage well with six. I guess oldest boy is may be ~~11-12~~ 14-15 youngest 1st grade (8?) but there are 5. They must be 8, 9, 10, 12 or at least that's what they look like. What a mob. They look real German, with clothes and hair cuts blond hair and rosy cheeks & They all seem to speak German beautifully. One boy looks very English and I don't mean American. The Webers were awfully good and hated to see me go. By the way the Hasslers have a Nash 4 door car in which you can make a bed by folding back backs of front seat which is divided as in a two door, and they are going as far as Florence on a tour of upper Italy; won't get Rome or at least won't make Naples. Could you folks hire maid for day or two maids, and give them a meal one day. It would be a circus & a picnic but you would meet some awfully nice people. He is a prof. of zoology at Univ Wisconsin, and a darn nice many all of them are much younger than I am 50 ish? nice & congenial. You could have an outdoor buffet meal (I'd pay even if you took them up the funicular). Really I'd like to do it But they will be going in a few weeks I believe if you think you can promise them one meal on their drive to Italy going or coming. You could write them direct, saying I told you to because we could not further discuss the matter. How game are you folks? They drink wine & beer & eat cheese sandwiches. It would be a lark & Bobby would meet about

3 very nice kids close to either side his age.
I maybe have some good friends in later years.
because of contacts Hessler made here in Munich
about the Bass catalog. That I came; + I helped
with Fulbright when he got his grant to come
to Europe. I saw what was left of 200 l
collections. What's left is well cared for but there
are no workers on any of the invertebrate
groups; one curator insects in charge of all (job
comparable to Fenner Chace's.

I know you think I'm crazy bring up the
Hesler matter, - but you can write him Dr.
Arthur D. Hessler,
His home: Kunigunden str. 55
Muenchen, Germany

or at Lab. where he works:
Zoologisches Institue
Muenchen 2, Luisenstr. 14
Germany

And if you do, it do it the same week you
get this. Don't shoot me when you next
see me

Love
Grandpa.

To all of you
You, Barb, Bob
and Bobby, Chris
and Eric

I haven't breathed
a word or suggestion
to Hesters. So
no harm is done but
I like see the offer made
them by you and Barb, Ann

4/4/55 6^30 (1)

Dear Stummy, I've tried to find time several times, to write but never seem to find time; just too much running around with the moving from place to place. When I got your letter in Leiden - it was certainly a surprise to get it from Boschma - I tried finding a few minutes but I had to go see Mrs Holthuis that aft. She wanted to be remembered and asked if I had a pict. of you. I wanted to get that passport photo copied but never got around to it - and now I'm grabbing a few minutes this early am. when I should be taking a bath I guess, to bring you up to date. So much has happened I don't know where to begin. I've not only Baker's friends to cope with but also my own. In London I saw Maurice Burton about sponges and de Laubenfels, Isabella Gordon, Muir-woods, and Miss Edwards about syst. exhibit we'd been corresponding about, besides Evans the mite man, and the year round locust hatchery for experimental purposes, & the live spider exhibit; the Hardings who entertained me last time and even the Museum director. In Leiden the Holthuis', and Boschma who took us to dinner as he did before with couple staff members, in Amsterdam Dr. Eynhoven whom Baker had to see - we were only there part of a day and stopped at no hotel, most of our baggage we checked at the air-port - the weight business has troubled us a lot, with the frequent moves you are weighed at every turn. // I got here to Munich on my own, Baker & I separated after Leiden, had to go through Amsterdam

to catch our planes for Malmo (Baker) and Munich (me). I did not realize it before but I landed here on a weekend which made some difficulties. Got in late Friday too late visit Webers but the address you gave me was not spelled right as to street, so I looked through the city directory (they have no phone) and located the place. There are many streets starting with New - but I found them. I went there next morning + had talk. and he took me to Zool. Inst. where I found Dr. Hussler (Minn U., Fulbright scholar) who just accidentally was in Sat. morning. He dated me up for Monday nite my last night here; but director of Zool. Inst. who has charge of crust. cat. I came here to see was unavailable + would be out of town. Hasler offered to take me out to Baiss' on Sunday morning at Planegg a suburb, but I had meanwhile wired Hugh the same nite I got in and when I got back to hotel 6 pm. Sat. he walked in door just ahead of me. (I had spent morn with Hasler + Weber and aft. at Das Deutsches Museum, a very wonderful sci. mus. known the world over) Hugh + I had dinner together with the Webers who had come by in aft while I was at Deut. Mus to leave an invitation for both of us. They knew I expect Hugh. Sunday we drove out

to Planegg to Bulss' where we had little shader spent the forenoon, after more lunch in town Hugh took me and Webbers to local zoo; quite a large one with 6 elephants, and walrus & aquarium among other things where we stayed till they put us out (closed down) at 7. Then we went to Ruthskeller for German supper; stood outside the town hall clock to see the famous "figures" move, and after some talk with Webbers went home; later Hugh started back to Salzburg and I went to bed. This morning I am to meet Bulss at Nymphenberg, a branch of the Zool. Inst where his catalog is stored — nobody is working with crust, any more here & coll. went to get during war —. The destruct. wrought here was terrible — and the reconstruct. underway is tremendous. Hugh says place has much improved since he first saw it. Then it was just awful; wrecked buildings, and vacant lots of rubble everywhere. // I'm crowding this in before starting the day at 8. The different diet and too much coffee upset my routines but after some bad sessions I think I've straightened

out. If I hadn't gotten up early you wouldn't have had this. Tomorrow early Tuesday I must pack up again and get to airport by 9 a.m. out of town it is; all airports over here are so far out you have to start from ~~the~~ in town terminal office an hour before, and then 1 hr. before plane time is usually 2½ to 3 hrs between time you leave hotel and time plane leaves. Your

can tell Hannah it was both a pleasure and a great help to meet the Webers. Local residents can tell you how to get about, nos. of cars to take time it takes and what not. I don't know what I'd done with out them; but on the other hand it ~~takes~~ one ~~has~~ to give them some time and in their present circumstances (retired) they seem a little starved for company but don't tell Hannah this. They apparently write her a great deal. Mrs Webers mother & (Poppa) Gasantners father were brother & sister (or was it ~~their~~ her grandmother & his grand father). Bubs is retired too and none too well, but he's coming in on bus ~~to~~ to show me his catalogue and that will take some time then I've got to see a microfilm man about the copying and Hasler's coming by at 4 p.m.

I hope you saw the Kingsburys safely in the house her recurring sickness looks the ~~way~~ you suspected, poor kid. Hope it won't cause too much trouble. Guess I should try to drop them a postal or two, but at present rate not many people are going to hear from me, when I write a letter my thoughts run to paper and nothing gets in diary, and I'm trying to keep that up. I've got to write McCain a note re office matters and Beets, - guess I got me a problem-child there. Maybe she'll be better after working with McCain three days a week in Miss Weiss' office (Weiss has Mr. Bryants old job) and two days a week for Miss Cochran who's never had a secretary. I'll have to tell McCain not to bear down too hard to make Beets over. She wrote me same time you did after you got Boschma's address. You know trouble we had trying to find things in Beets lack of order; one was Mrs Glassells address that I took a lot of time to dig up. Beets put it on a scrap of paper that we could not find. McCain found it cleaning up mess Beets left. I'm afraid Beets is too much like me

with scruppy notes and no good putting away (filing) habits, but you can't crack down too hard. If I can survive next 24-27 months I'll be out from under all office troubles, I hope.

Say, going up on that train was no fun. After I got to bed — the 2 o'clock jerk waked me up, & Bulto & Phila too. I really got no sleep till I got off on the plane and then I slept most of my way to Europe. Baker didn't get off as planned either, if I hadn't called him he would have had to call me but he did go up night before and had a good sleep in hotel (Martinique, old & run down, but clean and handy, two blocks from Penn. Sta.) I've got to quit. After two very wonderful quite clear and mostly sunny days, as I look out of window it's raining and no rubbers & umbrella and I've got to run this to post office if hotel can't handle it; hope they can. I also want to mail back some pamphlets I've acquired to save air-weight on luggage. // What about my plants? Wish I'd asked O'Meara's to take them down to their place I don't want loose those two little palms. Bold a good thought over an old man, too rushed around to write. Africa will be a relief from all this, but cold as Cannes is I'd rather be there with you than

here. Just too much to do and think about and to fit together, to pack and unpack. And how do you find Barb and Bob and the kids. It must be nice to be with them again. Give them all a hug and a kiss for me, to all of you all around, but you won't. If all goes well I'll be there on what, the 21st June, is that day you leave? and at what time of day? I've really got to quit to shave + clean up generally and get P.O. and started by nine; and get my coffee + rolls breakfast too.

Hope you find it warmer at Barbaras than I expect, and that all are well, yourself included.

Love from Grandpa
to each + every one of
you and you.

Munich disappointed me at first, dingy + dirty (war torn), but people are busy and shop windows something you would enjoy; beats New York even in that way. Would "love" it but for todays rain. Darn it.

And now I've got to write Dolman too. Hugh looks fine, really a nice looking man. Send his best. Was a pleasure to see him

Bakery shop.
business baby sitter
old Schwa
gas tank
sing french song
jungle type
cat — collar
in settlement

80
22
160
160
176

Baert, Dr. P.
Schneirla: Filed, Belgian Congo

August 30, 1955

Dr. Theodore C. Schneirla
American Museum of Natural History
Central Park West at 79th Street
New York, New York

Dear Dr. Schneirla:

I recently had the grand pleasure of visiting the Belgian Congo and while there seeing Dr. James P. Chapin, formerly with your museum. He is enjoying life to the extent that he is not worried whether he ever gets back to the States or not. His wife, however, is of somewhat different mind, as comfortably as they are situated.

In the course of my travels I visited the several National Parks and at the Rwindi Station of the Albert Park I became acquainted with the superintendent, Mr. P. Baert. He is quite an enthusiastic student of ants, having done something with them in his undergraduate days in Belgium. I am not altogether sure but what his thesis embodied some of these studies but so far as I am aware he has published nothing. Nevertheless, he is making observations from time to time right in the Park and has promise of being a competent collaborator in this field, if only with notes and with specimens. I feel, further, that he is worth encouraging and I ask if you won't send him such publications of your own as you may have to spare. I have spoken to Marion Smith here at the Museum and he is going to send some of his papers.

Library facilities in the National Parks are virtually nonexistent and each man has to build up his own reference material for the groups in which he is especially interested. If it would be more convenient for you to send the material here, please do so, and the Smithsonian will take care of forwarding it to Mr. Baert.

I haven't heard much about Barro Colorado Island and in fact, as I write this, the spirit moves me to send a friendly word to Zetek from whom I haven't heard since before my African trip last March. With kind regards,

8/30
asked Smith today

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:vb
Official address:
Mr. P. Baert
Parc National Albert
Rwindi par Goma
Kivu, Congo Belge

August 1, 1955

Air Letter

Mr. P. Baert, Director
Ruindi Camp
Parc National Albert
Congo Belge

Dear Mr. Baert:

I am not altogether certain I have your address correct and therefore I write you in advance of sending you publications dealing with ants. I am sorry that I have not gotten at the material sooner but this is my first opportunity after returning to the office to get a few letters written.

All of our film has not yet come to hand so I am unable to tell you what success we had with our picture taking. The little we have seen from the earlier part of our trip is quite good and so I am hopeful that the pictures we took out of Ruindi are equally good if not better.

I owe a great deal to you and your Park Service for the good time we had with you. This first trip to Africa was a revelation and frankly, I enjoyed your weather and climate more during our short visit than I have this past several weeks in Washington. We have been through an excessively hot and humid spell.

Do send me an airmail postcard giving me your full or correct address. I should have it with me but quite a number of my trip notes were packed for sending home by the Embassy in Cairo by surface mail because I was flying and wanted to reduce the weight of my baggage. As soon as I hear from you I'll start some "ant" publications on the way.

Thanks again for your many kindnesses and that opportunity of seeing as much of the Albert Park as you showed us. With the kindest of regards to you,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

WLS:vb

R. L. SEXTON, M.D.
J. R. EWAN, M.D.
C. E. WOODSON, M.D.

TELEPHONES METROPOLITAN 8-1042
REPUBLIC 7-4600
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

DRS. SEXTON, EWAN & WOODSON
WASHINGTON MEDICAL BUILDING
1801 EYE STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

February 27, 1958

Dr. Leonard Carmichael
Secretary, Smithsonian Institution
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Dr. Carmichael:

Thank you for your kind note of February 5th in regard to the 1955 Congo Expedition. I have talked to Dr. Waldo Schmitt and have a schedule set for March 3rd to go over the motion picture footage.

I was most anxious to have copies made of the 35 mm stereo stills and in talking with Dr. Schmitt found out that he has not yet catalogued or mounted them and will not have the time to do so until he returns from his planned trip. Thus, the schedule for the stereo work will be set for sometime after June, 1958.

The only record kept by myself or my son during the expedition is enclosed herewith. The contents of this book were taken off carefully by my son and given to Dr. Schmitt immediately upon our return. A copy of this transcription together with a copy of a letter to Dr. Schmitt are enclosed herewith.

Dr. Schmitt has asked that he be able to examine the original book. This can only imply that the transcription of the pen and ink entries was incorrect. I am sure that you will not find them so. The explanation in regard to this small handbook is, I feel, adequately explained in the letter.

As you know, I am an amateur photographer and acted as assistant to my son, who was chief of the photographic department of the Walter Reed Hospital at the time he was loaned for the Congo Expedition. He is a professional camera man for movies, stills and every type of scientific photography.

Since the expedition, he has been promoted to associate director of the photographic department of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, and as such is in administrative charge and direction of all technicians of that department. He has produced both sound and silent motion pictures in addition to other photographic research carried on at the AFIP.

I feel that his position in the two laboratories he has directed qualifies

him as a professional in his field, and his integrity will be vouched for by any of the staff at Walter Reed, either in the hospital or the AFIP group.

The enclosures then, including his own personal book, complete the transfer of all correspondence and files in regard to photography undertaken in this expedition.

Sincerely yours,

Roy L. Sexton

Roy Lyman Sexton, M.D.

RLS:jp
Enc.

Sexton, Roy Lyman

Africa

January 31, 1957

Dr. Roy Lyman Sexton
1801 Eye St., N. W., Suite 414
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Roy:

Here is a receipt I got from Mr. Fleegal whom I paid for projection services rendered on the 16th of January at The University Club. At your convenience you might send me the Club's check for that amount.

I hope the film pleased your audience as a whole. A number of the members were most kind in their expression of interest. Thank you too for the opportunity of showing it to you and your friends.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Encl.

WLS:eek

January 10, 1957

Dr. Roy Lyman Sexton
1801 Eye Street, N. W., Suite 414
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Roy:

Thank you for your letter of January 4. I shall be at the Club at 6.30 or a bit before with the film. I am sorry that you are going to the trouble of having a dinner, as you say, in my honor. It is not at all necessary, but it is good of you. Mrs. Schmitt will be with me and is looking forward to Mrs. Sexton's phone call.

I have talked to the young men at the National Geographic Society who put the film together and who will run the tape and who are experienced projectionists. Their standard charge, as you know from past Explorers Club experience, is $15 for the night regardless, so we might as well let them do both. The very next night I have to put on a show at the Smithsonian Regents annual meeting and they will be taking film home with them, and so they might as well handle it throughout with no disrespect to you or Buddy. I do not suppose that there will be any hesitation on the Club's part in letting them use that wonderful new projector of which you speak.

I hope that my presentation will be up to your anticipation. It should be interesting to those of us who were on the expedition.

Two people I would appreciate having invited to see the film are Mr. Carl F. Turvey and Mr. Harold E. Wingo of Motion Picture Laboratory, U. S. Department of Agriculture, who arranged the few local sequences which open and close the film. Both are married men.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:eek

ROY LYMAN SEXTON, M.D.
JOHN RADCLIFFE EWAN, M.D.
CHARLES E. WOODSON, M.D.

1801 EYE STREET, N. W.
SUITE 414
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

METROPOLITAN 8-1042 REPUBLIC 7-4600

January 4, 1957

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt
Highland St. & Allegheny Ave.
Takoma Park, Maryland

Dear Waldo:

The party of Wednesday, January 16, 1957, at the University Club is all set up and I think you will have a nice evening. Cocktails will be served at 6:30, dinner is at 7:00, and the lecture begins at 8:00. Let us have the names of the particular guests you want invited to the dinner in your honor. Mrs. Schmitt is invited with you and Mrs. Sexton will telephone her in regard to time, place, and intimate details.

An eight-foot screen is permanently installed in the Club and the new 1000 watt B&H projector is ready to use. A new amplifying system is set up with the speakers permanently installed in the ceiling. Your tape machine can be plugged into this AP set for any distance. The committee will underwrite the expense of your technician who runs the tape with the picture.

I am looking forward to this evening with great anticipation, since I have never seen the pictures projected.

Best personal regards,

Roy Lyman Sexton, M.D.

RLS:psw

Sexton, Roy L. Jr.

October 24, 1956

Mr. Roy L. Sexton, Jr.
Medical Illustration Section
Room 106
Reconditioning Building
Walter Reed Army Hospital
13th & Fern Sts., N. W.
Washington 12, D. C.

Dear Buddy:

I have come to the point where I need to have the picture log that you kept as part of the Congo Expedition records. Please let me know where and when I may send one of our messengers for it. I don't want to entrust it to the mail. It is a bit too valuable. For your convenience, I have enclosed a self-addressed franked envelope which requires no postage for the matter is wholly official.

It has taken a long time to get things in shape because, as you know, the Bredin-Caribbean Expedition intervened, and on top of that we are actively making plans now for a trip to the Society Islands based on Tahiti, where we have just succeeded in chartering a yacht. Moving pictures are not included in our plans. I wish they were because it is always nice to have something in motion to show on one's return. Don't ask me where the expedition for the year after is going. It looks as though they have become annual events with us here in the Department of Zoology.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:eek

September 21, 1955

Mr. Roy L. Sexton, Jr.
Chief, MIS, Room 106
Reconditioning Bldg.
Walter Reed Hospital
Washington 12, D. C.

Dear Buddy:

Please let the bearer have that note book or log of the moving pictures taken on the expedition. I have urgent need of it for the Geographic Society.

With this I hand you three film packs which probably are yours. They are not among those purchased for the expedition.

Whatever happened to that one roll of motion picture film that I left with you for testing and also the Ektachromes that were went to New York for developing? I hope they turned out well.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

W.S:vb

August 16, 1955

Mr. Roy L. Sexton, Jr.
Chief, MIS, Room 106
Reconditioning Bldg.
Walter Reed Hospital
Washington 12, D. C.

Dear Buddy:

Your letter, which our messenger brought back, is most welcome; I've still got a lot on my mind getting things lined up. The unpacking took considerable time, and not all of the materials are yet distributed,--turned the lava over to our geologist this a.m. Had to fumigate the contents of one chest in which I had packed a couple of native seats of wood. The cross-bar support of one was ruined by wood boring larvae, and although these tropic things probably winter kill, it might not be safe to let them get loose.

Working up data is a gradual job; I'm way behind with all the other calls on my time for Museum routine, and what not.

Thanks for the informative labelling on the negative envelopes. I'm sending them over for printing forthwith.

How fast film can get out dated,--we just bought our Ektachrome a few weeks ago. The carton or cartons that we left at the Embassy in Cairo for returning by surface pouch are not expected to arrive here until late this month. Your Dad was concerned about the one movie camera,but I'd already written Cairo asking when we might expect our stuff.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

WLS:vb

August 16, 1955

Mr. Roy Lyman Sexton, Jr.
Walter Reed Hospital
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Buddy:

Miss Beets tells me that we can get the black and white negatives. Please let the bearer have them. I am anxious to get the Museum photographer started on prints.

As long as the Ektachrome had to be sent to New York, it should have been done through the Museum. I thought you had a first class color lab at Walter Reed. Your Dad said that we could get better and quicker service there than anywhere else in the world. Please give our messenger the name of the New York firm.

Also let me know when the Ektachromes came back from New York. The messenger will come out on phone call.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

WLS:vb

Sexton, Dr. Roy L.

C O P Y

July 18, 1955

Dr. Roy Lyman Sexton
1801 Eye Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Roy:

Here it is, in part at least, from the State Department memorandum to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

"The Department having authorized the use of air pouch facilities for the shipment of exposed film, the Expedition sent on several packages of film which were exported via pouch. In order to effect this arrangement with the local Customs authorities, it was necessary for the Consulate General to retain the copy of the import permit and all shipments were checked off against this document in Leopoldville. In accordance with a well understood arrangement, this document was sent to the Customs authorities at Usumbura, and Dr. Schmitt was directed by telegram to call in at that Customs point and arrange there for final clearance of the Congo of all the equipment imported, whether at Leopoldville or Stanleyville. It was impressed on Dr. Schmitt that until he went through this procedure the Consulate General would be held liable by the Belgian Congo Customs authorities for payment of duty on goods consumed in the Congo.

"It now develops that Dr. Schmitt did not call in at the Customs office office in Usumbura but made arrangements through I.R.S.A.C. and through friends in the Eastern Congo to clear out of the Congo at the small Customs station of Kakitumba in Ruanda-Urundi. He did not call as directed to receive letters that were being held for him by the chief Customs officer at Usumbura and also to collect the import document which had been especially directed to him there.

.....

"In view of all the trouble taken by the Consulate General and the previous discussions had with the Director of Customs, it was considered advisable to inform this official that Dr. Schmitt had, in fact, left the Congo. The Consulate General had no alternative but to state that it was quite prepared to honor the guarantee it had given to the Customs in Leopoldville. The Director of Customs stated that he would cause a full investigation of this matter to be made and would inform the office in due course of the amounts to be paid. The Consulate General does not doubt that Dr. Schmitt on being informed of this situation will agree to pay whatever duties or penalties are assessed. The purpose of this despatch is simply to ask the Department to bring to the attention of the Smithsonian Institution the rather embarrassing position in which the Consulate General finds itself as a result of Dr. Schmitt's oversight."

Now, what I want from you is data along these lines: When we crossed the border you remarked that you had taken care of everything that the American Consul in Leopoldville was held responsible for and that he would be in the clear. What I want is a few figures that the Smithsonian can send him to reassure him of this fact. The papers that were given me at the Kakitumba Customs must be in the carton with the unexposed film coming from Cairo. As I recall it, I got between 7,000 and 9,000 francs back from my 12,000 franc deposit at Stanleyville. As you will recall, the Customs man at Kakitumba lifted all the transit documents I had with me for return to Leopoldville. How good is your memory? I would like to have the film figures at your early convenience, along these lines, unless you think some other statement would present the picture better.

1. Film brought into Leopoldville (air shipment) for which Mr. McGregor took responsibility and put up guarantee:

2. Film sent out by pouch from Leopoldville:

3. Film sent down from Stanleyville for return to States via pouch from Leopoldville:

4. Film declared by us at Stanleyville:

5. Film exposed subsequent to Stanleyville and acknowledged at Kakitumba:

6. Film not exposed taken out of Kakitumba:

Total film, 1+5 _____

Minus exposed film, 2+3+4 = film (in transit) taken out at Kakitumba.

One further question, do you recall how much the sum was that Thornton told the Customs man to have on hand at Kakitumba for possible refund to us?

I asked you above if you recalled the amount of the refund. Sorry I did not lug all the papers with me instead of shipping some of them.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. ofZoology

C O P Y

C O P Y

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1801 Eye Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

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Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. ofZoology

C O P Y

Sexton, Roy Lyman

July 6, 1955

Dear Roy:

Good to hear from you via the note. You are not the easiest man to reach by phone. I'm sorry you had that bout with flu and virus, but hope it's a thing of the past now.

Next on the agenda?--I asked Buddy when he phoned yesterday to let me have the film record note-book he kept. I want the book so that we can set up a permanent record and catalogue here at the Museum.

Further, I wired Thornton last Thursday or Friday for particulars regarding the film we left with him, for shipping air express, along with $40.00. I cannot understand the delay, if he did his part, and the plane did not drop.

I took a couple of Kodachromes, 35 mm. in Cairo, and there's nothing wrong with the color. I am somewhat relieved and reassured that the rest of the color shots taken on the trip survived the heat.

I want to have descriptive labels prepared here for attaching to the appropriate rolls or packets of film when all are at hand. Although my own secretary and I are busy this week and may be half of next with the annual report, which must be given first priority, I have six other girls in the department available for occasional typing jobs and clerical services.

The finger, thanks again to you, is doing nobly; almost a quarter of an inch (on center line) of the new nail is already showing behind the old mercurochrome stained one which I trim from time to time.

Otherwise am tip top.

Sincerely,

Dr. Roy Lyman Sexton
1801 Eye Street, N. W.

M.S:vb

January 10, 1957

Dr. Roy Lyman Sexton
1801 Rye Street, N. W., Suite 414
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Roy:

Thank you for your letter of January 4. I shall be at the Club at 6.30 or a bit before with the film. I am sorry that you are going to the trouble of having a dinner, as you say, in my honor. It is not at all necessary, but it is good of you. Mrs. Schmitt will be with me and is looking forward to Mrs. Sexton's phone call.

I have talked to the young men at the National Geographic Society who put the film together and who will run the tape and who are experienced projectionists. Their standard charge, as you know from past Explorers Club experience, is $15 for the night regardless, so we might as well let them do both. The very next night I have to put on a show at the Smithsonian Regents annual meeting and they will be taking film home with them, and so they might as well handle it throughout with no disrespect to you or Buddy. I do not suppose that there will be any hesitation on the Club's part in letting them use that wonderful new projector of which you speak.

I hope that my presentation will be up to your anticipation. It should be interesting to those of us who were on the expedition.

Two people I would appreciate having invited to see the film are Mr. Carl F. Turvey and Mr. Harold E. Wingo of Motion Picture Laboratory, U. S. Department of Agriculture, who arranged the few local sequences which open and close the film. Both are married men.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:eek

ARMED FORCES INSTITUTE OF PATHOLOGY
MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION SERVICE
PHOTOGRAPHY DIVISION

October 25, 1956

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology
Smithsonian Institution
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Dr. Schmitt:

In August of 1955, I prepared and sent to you an exact copy of my record of all the still and motion pictures that were taken during the Smithsonian-Bredin Expedition of 1955. This was done for several reasons; first, it was necessary to have several exact typewritten copies for the official records of the Expedition and for any persons who might be interested at a later date; second, copies were necessary in case of the loss of the original log book; third, the original log was hastily written in very small print in a small notebook and usually in a moving automobile, therefore the writing would be illegible to many persons; fourth, because of the large number of articles that I constantly had to account for, I found it convenient to keep all of my important notes in this same log book. These other notes consist of the following:

1. The name, make, and serial number of all items of photographic equipment used on the Expedition.

2. The weights of all types of film used by the Expedition, for air mail purposes.

3. The location of each article of photographic equipment by chest or case number.

4. The names and addresses of persons and places that I contacted during the Expedition that I feel are important to me for future correspondence, either personal or business.

The above list completes the entire contents of my photographic notebook for the Smithsonian-Bredin Expedition. Exact copies of any or all of the above notes will be sent to you upon request. However, I feel it necessary to state at this time that your insistence on my sending the original log book rather than accepting sworn true copies is a reflection on my personal honesty, integrity, and character. You have given me no valid reason for your needing the original log book and since it is of great value to me I must insist on keeping it.

Furthermore, after being hired as staff photographer for the Smithsonian-Bredin Expedition, I expected, and it rightly should have been my duty as a professional photographer, to not only supervise the taking and recording of all pictures made on the Expedition, but to do the more difficult task of gathering, sorting, editing, and finishing of the graphic illustration end of the Expe-

dition. Naturally I would expect that all of my work be under your direct supervision as leader of the Expedition. Many times, during and after the Expedition I have volunteered, requested, and even tried to insist that I be allowed to do the above work, but to no avail.

It is now sixteen months since the end of the Expedition. Not only have I heard no word from you in the form of a request for assistance or advice but I have learned from various sources that you are undertaking the compiling and editing of the Expedition's motion pictures yourself. This is not only a very difficult job for an amateur photographer but a very dangerous one since mistakes made in editing down motion picture film can seldom be corrected.

I find it very difficult to understand why you should want to undertake this long and tedious job of editing the Expedition's films when I know you have a terrific amount of work involved in the scientific reports of the Smithsonian-Bredin Expedition of 1955, the Bredin-Caribbean Expedition, your regular duties, and your forthcoming trip to Tahiti.

Also it has been exceedingly embarrassing to me over the past months to have to explain the whereabouts of the Expedition's pictures when questioned by members of scientific and professional organizations, my co-workers, and other interested persons.

I would appreciate a detailed explanation from you on all these matters since I feel that a three month scientific expedition to the Belgian Congo involving four men and many thousands of dollars cannot be dismissed by any of it's members as if it never happened.

Copies of this letter are being sent to the other members of the Smithsonian-Bredin Expedition of 1955 in order to clarify my feelings to all.

Sincerely,

ROY L. SEXTON, JR.
Asst. Chief,
Photography Division
Medical Illustration Service
A.F.I.P.

Motion Picture Film List

SMITHSONIAN-BREDIN EXPEDITION, BELGIAN CONGO, 1955

1. Brazzerville church; Hydro-Electric plant, ~~Tshopo falls~~; Congo rapids; ferry to Brazzerville; 4/13

2. Brazzerville; ferry across Congo; river view of Leopoldville; dougout canoe; Stanleyville artist; 4/19

3. Leopoldville; Avenue d'Albert; market place; Zoological Gardens; Congo rapids; 4/15

4. Leopoldville; modern section; restaurant; swimming pool; hospital;

5. Leopoldville; Palace Hotel; RR yards; Congo steamers; Coquilhatville airport; 4/17

6. Flight to Stanleyville; Wagenia Fisheries; 4/18

7. Wagenia fisheries; hydro-electric plant, Tshopo Falls; rigging fish nets; catching shrimps; 4/19

8. Wagenia fisheries; steamer docking at Stanleyville; 4/20

9. Wagenia fisheries; natives fishing; cooking fires; boy cooking beans; 4/20

10.

10. Stanleyville; Wagenia fisheries; cooking fires; boys begging for money; witch doctor in costume; 4/20

11. Stanleyville; Guest House; birds in trees; sugar cane; 4/20

12. Stanleyville street scenes; native Congo ferries; 4/22

13. Flight to Stanleyville; Wagenia natives in canoes; 4/22

14. Stanleyville; Yangambi; insects; flowers; 4/23

15. Yangambi; sunset; biggest tree (Libuyu); 4/24

16. Yangambi; rubber plantation; coffee; oil palm; 4/24

17. Road to Miallia; garage stop; goats; 4/26

18. Miallia to Paulis; shrimp fishing; 4/27

19. Road to Paulis; 4/27

20. Natives at river Obe on road to Paulis; musician singing, SOUND; 4/28

21. Dances at Paulis, SOUND; 4/28

22. Mangbetu dances at Paulis; 4/28

23. Dances at Paulis; 4/28

24. Natives selling oil palm nuts; palm oil factory; goats on roof of factory; ant hill; dissecting animal; monkey; 4/29

25. Oil Palm factory; dissecting animal; monkey; 4/29

26. Gangala na Bodio; antelope; zebra, graffe; 4/29

27. Gangala elephants bathing; 4/29

28. Garamba Nat'l Park; animals; rhino close-up; 4/30

29. Garamba Park animals; 4/30

30. Garamba Park; Gangala elephants; 4/30

31. Gangala elephants and retreat ceremony; 4/30

32. Gangala to Nioka; 5/1

33. Nioka; natives; beans; 5/2

34. Nioka; IHEAC station; manyoke seedlings; papaya; coffee; 5/2

35. Kisenya fisheries; 5/3

36. Bunia market; Ubangi women; 5/3

37. Mutwanga; special tree; 5/6

38. Albert National Park animals; 5/6

39. Albert Park; 5/6

40. Albert Park fisheries; hippos; 5/7

41. Albert Park; 5/7

42. Ishango to pigmy village, Beni;5/8

43. Pigmy dances, Beni, SOUND; 5/8

44. Pigmy village; road to Bwindi; 5/9

45. Bwindi Camp; 5/10

46. Bwindi Camp; 5/10

47. Bwindi Camp; 5/10

48. Bwindi Camp; 5/10

49. Rwindi Camp; hot springs; 5/11

50. Hot springs; 1953 lava flow; 5/11

51. Road to Kisenyi; 5/11

52. Kisenyi; Watusi dances; 5/12

53. Watusi dances, SOUND; 5/12

54. Goma to Bukavu; 5/13

55. Goma to IRSAC Lwiro; 5/14

56. IRSAC Lwiro; home of Dr. Chapin; Pigmies building fire; 5/15

57. Dr. Chapin's birds; 5/15

58. Dr. Chapin's birds; 5/15

59. Dr. Chapin's birds; mite damage to plants; 5/15

60. Mites at IRSAC Lwiro (cinephotomicrographs); 5/16

61. INEAC; carnation damage and spraying; 5/18

62. INEAC Mulunga; tea; chestnut; peach; cork oak; citrus; quinine; tongue oil; 5/18

63. INEAC Mulunga; 5/18

64. INEAC Mulunga; 5/18

65. Mulunga to Bukavu; 5/18

66. Bukavu to Astrida; Watusi at church;5/27

67. Astrida; Watusi women; INEAC Astrida; 5/22

68. Uvira; 5/22

69. Uvira; 5/22

70. Uvira; 5/22

71. Uvira; 5/22

72. Uvira; 5/22

73. Uvira; 5/22

74. Astrida to Gabiro; 5/23

75. Astrida to Cabrio; 5/23

76. Kagera National Park; 5/24

77. Kagera Park animals; 5/24

78. Kagera Park animals; 5/24

79. Kagera Park animals; 5/24

80. Kagera Park; protection of huts against animals; 5/25

81. Albert Nile; crossing Equator in Uganda; 5/28

82. Nile steamer departing; 5/29

83. On the Nile; elephants; NUER natives and DINKA natives on Nile; 5/30

84. On the Nile; elephants; paddle wheels; 5/31

85. Nile; landing at BEHBOI; 6/1

86. Nile; landing at MALAKAL; Nile boats; 6/2

87. Nile; animals and villages on banks; 6/3

88. Uvira; 5/22

89. Nile steamers NUER & HASHIM; 6/4

90. Nile sunset; 6/4

91. Nile; Kosti bridge; 6/5

92. Nile; boarding train at Kosti; sunset on desert; 6/7

93. Train across desert; Khartoum to Wadi Halfa; 6/9

94. Nile steamer MEJAF; steamer ALZAHRA; 6/10

95. On steamer ALZAHARA; Sudanese and polaroid camera; 6/10

96. Nile; Temple of ISIS; Assuan; old granite quarry; 6/11

97. Assuan; old tombs of Sheiks; Assuan dam and locks; 6/11

98. Assouan; Luxor; Valley of Kings; 6/12

99. Nile boats FELUCCAs; Karnak tombles; 6/12

100. Karnak temples; 6/12

101. Nile ALZAHRA; Luxor temple; 6/12

102. Thebes; 6/13

103. Thebes; 6/13

104. Thebes; Cairo; mosques; 6/14

105. Luxor temple; Cairo; old city; Nile motor; 6/15

106. Cairo mosques; 6/14

107. Pyramids; 6/15

108. Pyramids; Cairo; 6/16

35mm Film List

SMITHSONIAN-BREDIN EXPEDITION, BELGIAN CONGO 1955

Note: Film used in stereo cameras will be indicated 'stereo'. The date indicates the day film was removed from the camera.

1. Stereo - Brussels, Palace of Justice, Commercial square; Sabena flight to Leopoldville; Palace Hotel, Leo.; 4/13

2. Brussels; Sabena flight to Leopoldville; Braserville; Native church Braserville.,4/13

3. Brussels; Sabena flight to Leopoldville; Braserville., 4/13

4. Stereo - Brussels; Sabena flight to Leopoldville; Braserville church interiors; Congo river view of Leopoldville; 4/13

5. Stereo - Braserville; 4/14

6. Leopoldville, modern section, swimming pool, restaurant, hospital; 4/16

7. Stereo - Leopoldville; flight to Stanleyville; 4/17

8. Flight to Stanleyville; Stanleyville; Wagenia fisheries; 4/18

9. Stereo - Stanleyville; Wagenia fisheries; Native artists and paintings; Hydro-electric plant at Tshopo falls; 4/19

10. Stereo - Stanleyville, street scenes; Congo ferry; Wagenia fisheries; 4/22

11. Stanleyville; Wagenia fisheries; 4/22

12. Stanleyville; Congo ferry to Yangambi Agricultural Station; 4/23

13. Stereo - Yangambi; rubber and coffee trees; sunset over Congo; 4/25

14. Special stereo film of Dr. Sexton; old roll of K335

15. Dr. Schmitt's film; Dances at Paulis; 4/28

16. Stanleyville; Yangambi; Paulis dances; 4/28

17. Stereo - Mangbetu dances at Paulis; 4/28

18. NiaNia to Paulis; Mangbetu dances; 4/28

19. Dances at Paulis; 4/28

20. Dances at Paulis; 4/28

21. Stereo - Palm oil factory; Gangala na Bodio; 4/29

22. Palm oil factory; Gangala na Bodio; 4/29

23. Garamba National Park; animals; 4/30

24. Stereo - Gangala na Bodio; Garamba Park; road to Niokа; 5/1

25. Gangala to Nioka; native huts; Crown Crane; 5/2

26. Stereo - Nioka to Bunia; Kisenya fisheries; Ubangi women; 5/3

27. Stanleyville to Bunia; 5/3

28. Stereo - Mt. Hoyo; Mutwanga; 5/5

29. Mutwanga; Albert National Park; animals; 5/6

30. Albert National Park; 5/6

31. Albert National Park; 5/6

32. Ishango; Pigmy village at Beni; 5/8

33. Stereo - Albert National Park; Ishango; Pigmies at Beni; 5/9

34. Pigmy village; road to Rwindi; 5/9

35. Pigmy village at Beni; road to Rwindi; 5/9

36. Rwindi Camp; 5/10

37. Rwindi Camp; 5/10

38. Stereo - Rwindi Camp; 5/10

39. Stereo - Rwindi to Kisenyi; 5/11

40. Watusi dances; 5/12

41. Watusi dances; 5/12

42. Stereo - Watusi dances; 5/12

43. Goma to Bukavu; 5/13

44. Stereo - Goma to Bukavu; 5/13

45. Stereo - Bukavu; IRSAC (Lwiro); home of Dr. Chapin; 5/15

46. IRSAC Lwiro; 5/15

47. IRSAC Lwiro; 5/15

48. IRSAC Lwiro; photomicrographs of mites; 5/17

49. IRSAC Lwiro; 5/17

50. IRSAC Mulunga; photomicrographs; Astrida; 5/22

51. Uvira; 5/22

52. Uvira; 5/22

53. Uvira; 5/22

54. Uvira; 5/22

55. Uvira; Astrida; Gabrio; 5/23

56. Kagera National Park; 5/24

57. Entebbe to Nile steamer; 6/1

58. On the Nile; 6/3

59. On the Nile; 6/3

60. On the Nile; 6/3

61. Nile; Khartoum; water wheel; junction of White & Blue Nile; Omdurman; House of Khalifa; Mahdi Tomb; Medical School, Khartoum; 6/7

62. Nile; Khartoum; train across desert; steamer ALZAHRA; 6/10

63. Desert train to Wadi Halfa; steamer; train to Luxor; 6/12

64. Steamer Alzahra; Luxor; Karnak; 6/12

65. Luxor; Thebes; 6/13

66. Luxor; Thebes; 6/13

67. Luxor; Thebes; 6/13

68. Luxor; Thebes; 6/13 STEREO

69. Luxor to Cairo; Mosques; 6/15

70. Pyramids at Cairo; air trip home; 6/16

71. Luxor; Cairo; 6/16

Belgian Congo Expedition

October 24, 1956

Mr. Roy L. Sexton, Jr.
Medical Illustration Section
Room 106
Reconditioning Building
Walter Reed Army Hospital
13th & Fern Sts., N. W.
Washington 12, D. C.

Dear Buddy:

I have come to the point where I need to have the picture log that you kept as part of the Congo Expedition records. Please let me know where and when I may send one of our messengers for it. I don't want to entrust it to the mail. It is a bit too valuable. For your convenience, I have enclosed a self-addressed franked envelope which requires no postage for the matter is wholly official.

It has taken a long time to get things in shape because, as you know, the Bredin-Caribbean Expedition intervened, and on top of that we are actively making plans now for a trip to the Society Islands based on Tahiti, where we have just succeeded in chartering a yacht. Moving pictures are not included in our plans. I wish they were because it is always nice to have something in motion to show on one's return. Don't ask me where the expedition for the year after is going. It looks as though they have become annual events with us here in the Department of Zoology.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:eek

Sexton, R. L, Jr.
Belgian Congo Film

September 21, 1955

Mr. Roy L. Sexton, Jr.
Chief, MIS, Room 106
Reconditioning Bldg.
Walter Reed Hospital
Washington 12, D. C.

Dear Buddy:

Please let the bearer have that note book or log of the moving pictures taken on the expedition. I have urgent need of it for the Geographic Society.

With this I hand you three film packs which probably are yours. They are not among those purchased for the expedition.

Whatever happened to that one roll of motion picture film that I left with you for testing and also the Ektachromes that were went to New York for developing? I hope they turned out well.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

WLS:vb

WALTER REED ARMY HOSPITAL
WALTER REED ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
WASHINGTON 12, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO Medical Illustration Section
Rm 106 Reconditioning Bldg.

September 21, 1955

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

Dear Waldo:

Sorry I have been so long in contacting you. We have been very busy here and what little work I have done on the Expedition notes has been in the evenings at home and I cant accomplish much there. Also I knew you said you were still catching up on your back work and wern't ready to start yet on the pictures.

At the moment everything I have on the Expedition is at home and I won't be able to reach it until this evening. However I can assure you that I will finish typing the photographic list this evening and I will personally bring everything to your office the first thing in the morning. The actual note book that I used on the trip would be of little value since it is crammed writing written in a bouncing car and would be almost illegible to a stranger.

I will also bring the Ektachrome films and the statement from the processor. The roll of motion picture film that you gave me turned out fine and I'm sure that the rest of the film that you have is in good shape.

Your messenger does not have three film packs with him but I can pick them up later.

If the above arrangement is not satisfactory for meeting you please have your secretary give me a call and we'll arrange a better time.

Sincerely,

Roy L. Sexton, Jr.

Roy L. Sexton, Jr.
Chief, M.I.S., WRAH

Packs

1 Isopan Type V Class A. 25 sheets 4x5 / 282-372-1-62
Tropic Pack Sept. 54

1 ditto / 282-452-1-E3
Tropic Pack AF-30(635)1342 Feb. 195~~2~~ smussed

1 Kodak Ektachrome Safety Film Type B. 10 sheets 4x5 } Before Oct. 1954
6102-541-~~3~~ smussed.

1 ~~K~~ ditto. 6102-541 3.

4

Belgian Congo File

August 16, 1955

Mr. Roy L. Sexton, Jr.
Chief, MIS, Room 106
Reconditioning Bldg.
Walter Reed Hospital
Washington 12, D. C.

Dear Buddy:

Your letter, which our messenger brought back, is most welcome; I've still got a lot on my mind getting things lined up. The unpacking took considerable time, and not all of the materials are yet distributed,--turned the lava over to our geologist this a.m. Had to fumigate the contents of one chest in which I had packed a couple of native seats of wood. The cross-bar support of one was ruined by wood boring larvae, and although these tropic things probably winter kill, it might not be safe to let them get loose.

Working up data is a gradual job; I'm way behind with all the other calls on my time for Museum routine, and what not.

Thanks for the informative labelling on the negative envelopes. I'm sending them over for printing forthwith.

How fast film can get out dated,--we just bought our Ektachrome a few weeks ago. The carton or cartons that we left at the Embassy in Cairo for returning by surface pouch are not expected to arrive here until late this month. Your Dad was concerned about the one movie camera,but I'd already written Cairo asking when we might expect our stuff.

Sincerely,

Note:
B+W taken to Lab
S2 Photo Lab
for developing
8/18/55 B

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

WLS:vb

WALTER REED ARMY HOSPITAL
WALTER REED ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
WASHINGTON 12, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO

Medical Illustration Section
Rm 106, Reconditioning Bldg.

16 August 1955

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology
Smithsonian Institution
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Waldo,

Here are the black and white films you sent me plus three rolls that were taken after the final shipment in Cairo and plus one film pack that I discovered still in the 4x5 camera when I opened it a few days ago.

The ektachrome color film was sent to New York for processing through the James R. Dunlop Studios of Washington, D.C. Since all ektachrome is now of the new E2 type requiring different processing than the old ektachrome (of which we were using on the trip) we thought it best to send it to a reliable firm in New York for the old method of processing. As of yesterday the Dunlop Studios had not received the film back but it is due in at any hour and I will call you the moment it arrives.

I have a lot of data that I am gradually working up for you and a more lengthly letter will follow.

Sincerely,

Bud

Roy L. Sexton, Jr.
Chief, MIS, WRAH

932 "D"

August 16, 1955

Mr. Roy Lyman Sexton, Jr.
Walter Reed Hospital
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Buddy:

Miss Beets tells me that we can get the black and white negatives. Please let the bearer have them. I am anxious to get the Museum photographer started on prints.

As long as the Ektachrome had to be sent to New York, it should have been done through the Museum. I thought you had a first class color lab at Walter Reed. Your Dad said that we could get better and quicker service there than anywhere else in the world. Please give our messenger the name of the New York firm.

Also let me know when the Ektachromes come back from New York. The messenger will come out on phone call.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

WLS:vb

August 3, 1955

Mr. Roy Lyman Sexton, Jr.
Walter Reed Hospital
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Bud:

Your dad says you can do a better job on these films than Porter Brothers. There are:

6	4 x 5 film packs	(No. 6 thru 10; No. 12)
6	rolls 120 plus x	(No. 1 thru 5; No. 11)
8	" 120-8 Ektachrome	(No. 1 thru 8)

We insist on paying for this job, so bill the developing to me and I will send you a check for it pronto.

Also, we'll make all prints here at the Museum so let us have the film back as soon as developed. I can send messenger for it whenever you call me.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

WLS:vb

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

August 3, 1955

Mrs. Porter
Porter Studios and Photo Supplies
104 N. Washington
Falls Church, Virginia

not sent

Dear Mrs. Porter:

Please develop the film herewith for the Smithsonian Institution, billing me for the job. We would appreciate your numbering the envelopes according to the figures shown on the various rolls listed below.

6 4 x 5 film packs (No. 6 thru 10; No. 12)

6 rolls 120 plus x (No. 1 thru 5; No. 11)

8 " 120-8 Ektachrome (No. 1 thru 8)

No prints are to be made of any of the film.

Dr. C. O. Handley, who is delivering these films to you, will pick them up again as soon as you notify my office. (Phone Na.1810, Ext. 274)

Your prompt attention to the matter will be appreciated as this film has already been in transit nearly two months.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

WLS:vb

ROY LYMAN SEXTON, M.D.
JOHN RADCLIFFE EWAN, M.D.
CHARLES E. WOODSON, M.D.
1801 EYE STREET, N. W.
SUITE 414
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.
METROPOLITAN 8-1042 REPUBLIC 7-4600

July 20, 1955

MEMO TO: Dr. Waldo Schmitt

FROM: Dr. Roy L. Sexton

I cannot find my memo of the film declared out at Kitatumba and I can only guess until the memo turns up. The film was not counted and it is possible that I made a mistake in the estimate. It is also possible that the language difficulties, assisted by Frank Lambrecht, the custom officer, did not correctly fill out the figures given him. So far as my records show, figuring movie and 35 mm rolls, the figures are as follows:

DECLARED AT LEOPOLDVILLE:

40 rolls - 16 mm	10 rolls - 35 mm

DECLARED AT STANLEYVILLE:

102 rolls - 16 mm	50 rolls - 35 mm
TOTAL: 142 rolls - 16 mm	TOTAL: 60 rolls - 35 mm

SHIPPED OUT FROM LEOPOLDVILLE:

3 rolls - 16 mm	6 rolls - 35 mm

SHIPPED FROM STANLEYVILLE VIA LEOPOLDVILLE:

10 rolls - 16 mm	5 rolls - 35 mm

SHIPPED FROM BUKAVU:

49 rolls - 16 mm	38 rolls - 35 mm.

Plus 13 black and white packages

TOTAL: 62 rolls - 16 mm	TOTAL: 49 - 35 mm

My guess is that between eighty to ninety rolls of 16 mm film were declared in transit and about ten rolls of 35 mm were declared at Kitatumba. I remember that we asked the custom man to have

9000 francs on hand from the 12,000 that you originally deposited and he actually did return 8000 plus.

I would suggest that a high level officer from the State Department ask McGregor to pay the full duty immediately on the film now held and ship it the fastest possible way; otherwise it will be a total loss and might as well be dumped overboard at Leopoldville.

Sincerely,

Roy Lyman Sexton, M.D.

rls/mvs

C O P Y

July 18, 1955

Dr. Roy Lyman Sexton
1801 Eye Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Roy:

Here it is, in part at least, from the State Department memorandum to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

"The Department having authorized the use of air pouch facilities for the shipment of exposed film, the Expedition sent on several packages of film which were exported via pouch. In order to effect this arrangement with the local Customs authorities, it was necessary for the Consulate General to retain the copy of the import permit and all shipments were checked off against this document in Leopoldville. In accordance with a well understood arrangement, this document was sent to the Customs authorities at Usumbura, and Dr. Schmitt was directed by telegram to call in at that Customs point and arrange there for final clearance of the Congo of all the equipment imported, whether at Leopoldville or Stanleyville. It was impressed on Dr. Schmitt that until he went through this procedure the Consulate General would be held liable by the Belgian Congo Customs authorities for payment of duty on goods consumed in the Congo.

"It now develops that Dr. Schmitt did not call in at the Customs office office in Usumbura but made arrangements through I.R.S.A.C. and through friends in the Eastern Congo to clear out of the Congo at the small Customs station of Kakitumba in Ruanda-Urundi. He did not call as directed to receive letters that were being held for him by the chief Customs officer at Usumbura and also to collect the import document which had been especially directed to him there.

.....

"In view of all the trouble taken by the Consulate General and the previous discussions had with the Director of Customs, it was considered advisable to inform this official that Dr. Schmitt had, in fact, left the Congo. The Consulate General had no alternative but to state that it was quite prepared to honor the guarantee it had given to the Customs in Leopoldville. The Director of Customs stated that he would cause a full investigation of this matter to be made and would inform the office in due course of the amounts to be paid. The Consulate General does not doubt that Dr. Schmitt on being informed of this situation will agree to pay whatever duties or penalties are assessed. The purpose of this despatch is simply to ask the Department to bring to the attention of the Smithsonian Institution the rather embarrassing position in which the Consulate General finds itself as a result of Dr. Schmitt's oversight."

Now, what I want from you is data along these lines: When we crossed the border you remarked that you had taken care of everything that the American Consul in Leopoldville was held responsible for and that he would be in the clear. What I want is a few figures that the Smithsonian can send him to reassure him of this fact. The papers that were given me at the Kakitumba Customs must be in the carton with the unexposed film coming from Cairo. As I recall it, I got between 7,000 and 9,000 francs back from my 12,000 franc deposit at Stanleyville. As you will recall, the Customs man at Kakitumba lifted all the transit documents I had with me for return to Leopoldville. How good is your memory? I would like to have the film figures at your early convenience, along these lines, unless you think some other statement would present the picture better.

1. Film brought into Leopoldville (air shipment) for which Mr. McGregor took responsibility and put up guarantee:

2. Film sent out by pouch from Leopoldville:

3. Film sent down from Stanleyville for return to States via pouch from Leopoldville:

4. Film declared by us at Stanleyville:

5. Film exposed subsequent to Stanleyville and acknowledged at Kakitumba:

6. Film not exposed taken out of Kakitumba:

Total film, 1+5 _____

Minus exposed film, 2+3+4 = film (in transit) taken out at Kakitumba.

One further question, do you recall how much the sum was that Thornton told the Customs man to have on hand at Kakitumba for possible refund to us?

I asked you above if you recalled the amount of the refund. Sorry I did not lug all the papers with me instead of shipping some of them.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. ofZoology

C O P Y

ROY LYMAN SEXTON, M.D.
JOHN RADCLIFFE EWAN, M.D.
CHARLES E. WOODSON, M.D.
1801 EYE STREET, N. W.
SUITE 414
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.
METROPOLITAN 8-1042 REPUBLIC 7-4600

July 12, 1955

MEMORANDUM TO: Dr. Waldo Schmitt

RE: Personal item for the Annals of the D.C. Medical Society

The Medical Society of the District of Columbia has a publication called Annals of the D.C. Medical Society, which is published once a month. In the personal notes they have asked for permission to enclose an item in regard to our trip. I do not wish to release anything which is not acceptable to you and the Smithsonian, as well as fulfilling the express desires of Mr. Bredin. For this reason will you glance at the enclosed item and blue pencil it if you would like to have it changed. After all, it is only a personal item and not for general release to any other publication.

This personal item includes reference to Roy Jr., since he is projection technician for the Medical Society during their annual meeting of three days and has been taking care of this technical part for the past three years. He is therefore considered an unofficial member of the Medical Society.

Very truly yours,

Roy

Roy Lyman Sexton, M.D.

RLS/psw
enc.

MEMORANDUM FOR RELEASE TO THE D.C. MEDICAL SOCIETY FOR PUBLICATION IN THE MEDICAL ANNALS IN THEIR PERSONAL NOTES COLUMN

"Dr. Roy Lyman Sexton recently completed a two and a half month scientific mission in Central Africa, including the Belgian Congo, Uranda Urundi, Uganda, Tanganyiki, Sudan and Egypt as medical officer for the U.S. Smithsonian-Bredin Expedition. This mission was for the purpose of studying species identification of mites and their distribution on plants and small animals. Specimens of soil were collected for antibiotic assay. A photographic record was kept of the trip, which will be filed in the Archives of the museum. Of personal interest to Dr. Sexton was a practical field try-out of methods of water purification and of preventive measures of tropical diseases which were used on the members of the party. The palatability of new water purifiers and dietary routines on such a trip were tested. A detailed report of this trip will not be completed for some time. It will be released from the Smithsonian Institution.

"The party left Washington on April 9, 1955, going straight to Leopoldville. From there the trip was made by car, plane, and boat, ~~to Upper~~ Cairo by following the navigable waters of the Nile to that city. landing in.

"Dr. Sexton's son, Roy Lyman Jr., chief of medical photography at Walter Reed Hospital, was staff photographer on the expedition. The return was direct from Cairo on June 19, 1955."

RLS:psw

ROY LYMAN SEXTON, M.D.
JOHN RADCLIFFE EWAN, M.D.
CHARLES E. WOODSON, M.D.
1801 EYE STREET, N. W.
SUITE 414
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.
METROPOLITAN 8-1042 REPUBLIC 7-4600

July 6, 1955

MEMO TO: Dr. Waldo Schmitt

RE: Financial Account of African Trip

I am attempting to get my financial items straightened out and I find in my personal account a check in the amount of $643.36, dated April 16, 1955, endorsed by the American Consulate at Leopoldville and payable to the Treasurer of the United States.

I don't know in what column of bookkeeping it should be placed but assume you would want to know the date and amount as early as possible so that you could put it in the right catagory.

When do I have a look at your finger?

Sincerely,

Roy

Roy Lyman Sexton, M.D.

rls/mvs

ROY LYMAN SEXTON, M.D.
JOHN RADCLIFFE EWAN, M.D.
CHARLES E. WOODSON, M.D.
1801 EYE STREET, N. W.
SUITE 414
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.
METROPOLITAN 8-1042 REPUBLIC 7-4600

July 5, 1955

MEMORANDUM TO: Dr. Waldo Schmitt

RE: Details of African Trip

I am back in the office after a week of virus and cold. Surely felt low.

I assume that the unused ticket from Entibbe to Juba should be turned in and a refund of $42.00 and some cents should be endorsed over to you. I shall do this if you have no other suggestion.

I would like to see the finger and see the final result. You could stop by the office anytime you happen to be in this vicinity, giving us a call to make sure that I am here. You could also stop by on your way home from work or I will come by your office on my lunch hour if you are jammed up and have no opportunity to come up here.

Sincerely yours,

RLS

Roy Lyman Sexton, M.D.

rls/mvs

PS what's next on the agenda? R.

BC

February 18, 1955

Dr. Roy Lyman Sexton
Suite 414, Washington Medical Building
1801 Eye Street, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Dr. Sexton:

I take great pleasure in appointing you a collaborator of the Smithsonian Institution to serve with the forthcoming Smithsonian-Bredin expedition to the Belgian Congo. Your presence as medical officer and official photographer will greatly enhance the achievement of the members of this expedition.

The group, which you have so kindly consented to join, will assemble in Leopoldville on or about April 14 and will return via the Egyptian Sudan, Cairo, and New York, to Washington about June 20. For the duration of the journey the Smithsonian will assume the expense of your travel, subsistence and lodging, Washington to Washington.

I wish here to express my sincere appreciation of the generous contribution of your personal time and effort to the success of the expedition. May it be all that we anticipate.

Cordially yours,

Leonard Carmichael
Secretary

M.S:vb

Dr. Carmichael February 17, 1955

Waldo L. Schmitt

Request that Dr. Sexton be appointed collaborator

As you know, Dr. Roy Lyman Sexton has consented to donate his time to the Smithsonian-Bredin Congo expedition as medical officer and official photographer. Dr. Sexton served as medical consultant to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service on Pribilof Island investigations a few years ago and subsequently to a government mission to Greece. In the latter case he was granted a special passport for travel purposes and I would like to secure for him the same privilege for this expedition. Dr. Baker (United States Department of Agriculture) and I both hold such passports. It is for this reason that I suggest that Dr. Sexton be appointed collaborator to the Institution for six months or at least for the duration of the expedition, and that he be furnished a letter to the State Department requesting that such a passport be issued him.

We shall need State Department authorization or permission to visit the Belgian Congo, the Anglo Egyptian Sudan, Uganda, Tanganyika Territory, and Egypt. A one day visit to Brazzaville in French Equatorial Africa will be made but I do not know whether it needs to appear on our passports. On this point the State Department advice will have to be sought. I may need a similar letter to bring my passport up to date.

On our return trip by air from Cairo we shall be passing through Italy, France, and Belgium; but in Europe no visas are needed.

ROY LYMAN SEXTON, M.D.
JOHN RADCLIFFE EWAN, M.D.
CHARLES E. WOODSON, M.D.
1801 EYE STREET, N. W.
SUITE 414
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.
METROPOLITAN 8-1042 REPUBLIC 7-4600

February 15, 1955.

Mr. J. Bruce Bredin
P. O. Box 87
Wilmington 99, Delaware.

Dear Mr. Bredin:

I have your note of January 31st. The time is so short that the Yellow Fever shots should be taken right away. This may be obtained from any U. S. Public Health Station. Call up the one in the telephone book and they will tell you where to go for it.

No other vaccine should be taken within 5 days after you have the Yellow Fever shot; thereafter, you will need only (1) a single booster shot for typhoid; (2) a single booster shot for typhus; (3) small pox vaccination. You may take the tetanus if you so desire. The others are necessary for passport regulations.

I am most anxious to see you and Mrs. Bredin either at your home or here in Washington and talk about the type of travelogue film to produce as the places we will visit are not usually seen in a movie recording. The importance of the trip seems greater and greater each time I get an opportunity to chat about it. The taking of such a movie as we will be able to produce and keeping it for growing children can serve as an important part of their education. At least, this was so with my own children when they were of grammar school age. The film should also be of such quality that it can be used for National Geographic or similar presentation.

I shot such a film for the Interior Department showing the medical needs of Guam, Samoa, Okinawa, and the Trust Territories. This was of inestimable value later on when Guam and Samoa actually became territories. Also did the Pribilof Islands for the Interior Department in 1944, again in 1945 and 1947, and this footage is now, with additions, the master film of the "Pribilof Islands", giving the story of the fur seal industry. My son, Roy Lyman, Jr., did the same thing for Haiti and the Dominican Republic. I only mention this to show that planning such shooting ahead of a trip makes the quality and effectiveness of the film greater. Often it is some months after a trip when one realizes that a different approach to the story should have been made and then it is too late to do anything about it.

ROY LYMAN SEXTON, M.D.
JOHN RADCLIFFE EWAN, M.D.
CHARLES E. WOODSON, M.D.
1801 EYE STREET, N. W.
SUITE 414
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.
METROPOLITAN 8-1042 REPUBLIC 7-4600

If there is any possibility of a meeting with you folks, either in Delaware, Florida, or anywhere else, please pick up the telephone on receipt of this letter and I will try to drop in where ever you are. I have been flying down to Palm Beach about once a week to see patients and it would be easy to look you up at Del Ray if I knew where to call you.

Hoping to hear from you soon, I am,

Very truly yours,

Roy Lyman Sexton, M. D.

Telephone: Me. 8-1042.

RLS:vw
cc to Dr. W. Schmitt

ROY LYMAN SEXTON, M.D.
JOHN RADCLIFFE EWAN, M.D.
CHARLES E. WOODSON, M.D.

1801 EYE STREET, N. W.
SUITE 414
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

METROPOLITAN 8-1042 REPUBLIC 7-4600

Letter was sent to Reston

February 14, 1955.

MEMO: to Dr. Waldo Schmitt.

IN REGARD: to obtaining leave of absence from Walter Reed Hospital for Roy Sexton, Jr., to join the U. S. Smithsonian-Schmitt-Bredin Expedition to the Belgian Congo.

A letter to Colonel Kenneth F. Ernst, Chief Laboratory Service, Walter Reed Hospital, from the Smithsonian would be all that is necessary to obtain official leave of absence for Roy, Jr. The scientific nature of the expedition should be stressed with the necessity of microscopic photography, as well as field photography, being needed.

Roy, Jr., is told by his friends that there will be no difficulty in obtaining a leave of absence and, as I have already said, in case this cannot be accomplished, he still has a leave due him which he would take to go on the trip. I think that such a request should be put in whether he goes or not, since, if anything happened to me, such as a gall bladder operation or broken elbow, and I were to be taken off from the trip the last minute, there would not then be time to replace me with an alternate, unless this were done. Obtaining a general all around photographer of this type without payment of a salary in addition to expenses would be somewhat difficult and I think the photographic part of the expedition is of paramount importance.

As mentioned before, Roy, Jr., could join the expedition at any day by plane and take only a part of the time in case something unavoidably pulled me home. So I do think these preparations should be made, just in case.

Roy

Roy Lyman Sexton, M. D.

RLS:vw

February 11, 1955

Dr. Roy Lyman Sexton
Suite 414, Washington Medical Bldg.
1801 Eye Street, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Roy:

Here is a copy of that itinerary that you thought you would like to have. It is not altogether final but approximates what we shall actually be doing. The forty-five day itinerary is the one I am pulling for and expect to get Bredin to acquiesce to.

Of course you understand that the Nile trip, which tacks on at the end of both of these itineraries (45 or 30 day), will take some eighteen days longer. I do not know how much there will be worth photographing for half the time on the Nile. Certainly as we get down toward Khartoum, Luxor, and Cairo, there will be more to take.

Enclosed is a sheet recapitulating the film costs as obtained by our Mr. Shephard. These prices, except for the polaroid film and the film packs, include developing.

With this I also send you a circular, which Mr. Shephard just brought in, about another recorder. He would like to have it back when you are through with it. Please remember, however, we shall buy the one that you prefer.

Shephard tells me that he has been unable to get hold of Mr. Hyde at Kitt's. Do you think it is worth yout time to discuss it with him?

Sincerely yours,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

WLS:vb

FILM PRICES

Electrical Center
414-10th St., N.W.
Washington, D. C.

2 weeks delivery

Film Polaroid, large size, 8 exposures
60 rolls at $1.40 $84.00

Eastman Kodak Co.
Government Sales Div.
444 Shoreham Bldg.
Washington, D.C.

*30 day delivery

Film, photographic, Kodachrome, daylight type, including processing:

18-F-31856 Motion picture, 16 mm., 100 ft. roll, No. 365.
180 rolls at $6.92 $1245.60

18-F-37420 100 roll, hand camera, 35 mm., 36 exposures, K135-36, daylight type.
180 rolls at $3.29 $592.20

Film, pack:
18-F-37120 Plus x, 4x5 inches, PX-523.
72 packs at $1.58 $113.76

Eastman Total: $1951.56

Electrical Cen.Total: 84.00

$2035.56

*Some of this film can be obtained in less time.

I do not see that Shepherd has put down for Tropic Pack. He mentions that most of the roll film is tightly sealed. In any case the charge for Tropic Pack should be nominal.

October 28, 1954

Sociét'Congolaise de Tourisme
Costermansville (Bukavu)
B.P. 517, Belgian Congo

Cable: Congo Tours

What cost for party of 5 Stanleyville Ponthierville Biondo one day camping if necessary Kasese, Shabunda if needed overnight, Costermansville, plus Circuit D except return Paulis, Mambasa, Camp Putnam, Stanleyville? Any difference starting tour Costermansville? What charge per additional days use car English speaking chauffeur enroute party assuming extra room meal charges? Reply night letter.

NIGHT CABLE

December 23, 1954

Dr. Clark Stillman
Belgian American Ed. Foundation
420 Lexington Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Stillman:

You may remember that I talked with you on the telephone this morning about the opportunity for doing some scientific work in the Belgian Congo in May of 1955.

The group with which I will be connected is composed of five people: Mr. and Mrs. Bredin, Dr. Waldo Schmitt, Dr. Sexton and me. Mr. and Mrs. Bredin are sponsoring the trip under the aegis of the Smithsonian Institution.

Dr. Schmitt is the Head Curator of Zoology at the U. S. National Museum and is primarily interested in the Crustacea. Dr. Sexton is a physician and amateur photographer. I am particularly interested in the mites and ticks.

My main reason for wanting to go to the Belgian Congo is that some interesting work is now being done on the diseases of wild animals there. In connection with this work, a number of collections of ectoparasites have been made from wild animals. I am particularly interested in the many new forms that have been reported by Dr. Vercammen who works in Dr. Jadin's laboratory.

In addition, I should like to make an extensive collection of the plant-feeding mites that occur on plants of economic importance in the Belgian Congo. In that connection it would be desirable for me to be able to talk with an Agricultural Entomologist or Plant Pathologist who had some experience there.

In order to accomplish all of this in the short time that I have available, I believe that it might be desirable for me to be able to set up headquarters at IRSAC.

Perhaps when you are in Washington next month, you will be able to give us some time so that we can discuss our special objectives. If you will let me know when you are coming, it would be a pleasure for me to arrange for you to stay at the Cosmos Club here.

Sincerely yours,

G. W. Wharton
Department Head

GWW:sch

Société Congolaise de Tourisme
Costermansville (Bukavu)
B.P. 517, Belgian Congo

Cable: Congo Tours

What cost for ~~Cost~~ of party/5 Stanleyville, Ponthierville, Biondo one day camping if necessary ~~Kumbara~~ Kasese, Shabunda if needed overnight, Costermansville, plus Circuit D ~~12 jours~~ except return ~~Stanleyville~~ ~~Way~~ Paulis, ~~Mungbere~~ Mambasa Camp Putnam, ~~Avakubi~~, Stanleyville

31)

6) Any difference cost starting ~~above~~ Pur Costermansville

What ~~Also~~ charge ~~$~~ ~~for~~ per ~~extra~~ additional days use car English speaking chauffer ~~per day extra~~ ~~Stanleyville~~ enroute ~~would~~ party assuming extra ~~meals~~ room meal charges.

18)

56) Reply night letter

Night cable 6

Coast & Geodetic Survey
Adm. R. F. A. Studds
Filed: Belgian Congo

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

March 21, 1955

Admiral R. F. A. Studds
Director, Coast and Geodetic Survey
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Admiral Studds:

I cannot begin to thank you for your great kindness in letting us have the Aeronautical Maps covering the pertinent part of the Smithsonian-Bredin Congo Expedition. These maps have already been most useful and will be invaluable in connection with our field work. We are traveling by truck and auto and will be making detailed examinations of many of the localities at first hand. We are especially indebted to Mrs. Laura Steele of the Survey for suggesting these maps for our use and arranging for them to be sent to us. It was through her awareness of our needs and her division's readiness to comply with her suggestion that we have been able to successfully plan our itinerary. The cooperation extended by the Survey to the Smithsonian is keenly appreciated. On our return we hope to be able to contribute something to the information that you publish in connection with these maps.

Sincerely yours,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Dear Mr. Thornton, Thank you for your
wire re pistols. The only paper I had was
a receipt for 33 shillings given me by customs
agent when we crossed over into Uganda.
He said we'd get our money back when we left.
However Overseas handled it for us, and I
gave Peter that receipt along with list of
contents of cases to deliver to "Overseas"
That's the best I can do and all I know. If
Mombassa officials have to hold guns let
them take them out of crate (no 2 I believe)
they are in very bottom) can hold them till
I get back to Washington, but send ship-
ment on. I also asked them by air letter
couldn't they let shipment go in bond to
Wash. via our dispatch agent so that
some British official in Wash. could check

on their return to Nash. The damn things were sealed, with lauden seal on packase by their Uganda (B.C.) border agent, who said sealed like this you'll have no trouble — they were merely in transit and I don't see where export license applies. Still Custom's have their rules let them remove guns if they must I can't do a damn thing about matter till I get home about 27th of June.

Will write you again at that time, thanks again for everything, regards to you, Mrs Thornton and our mutual friends in Bukavu & Congo

Sincerely
Waldo C. Schmitt

E. P. THORNTON - DAILLY
BUKAVU
BELGIAN CONGO

P. O. BOX 188
CABLES : "THORNTON"
TELEPHONE 413 - 145

TOURIST AGENT
ORGANISER AND OPERATOR
OF MOTOR TOURS

INSURANCE

BUKAVU July 13th 1955.

Dr Waldo Schmitt.
Head Curator of Zoology.
U.S. National Museum.
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.
U.S.A.

Dear Dr Schmitt,

Your telegram informing me that the film had not yet arrived greatly astonished me. I was away when your telegram reached here hence the delay in replying.

You experienced plenty of trouble when enterring the Congo with this film and as was to be expected I experienced quite a lot in trying to send it back to you.

As I held no document to prove that you were entitled to use these films in the Congo, the customs wanted me to lay down the export duties. After a number of arguments I finally decided the best way to avoid any further trouble or expenses, was to hand the parcels to the American Consul in Léopoldville, so that he could dispatch same in similar fashion than he had already done with part of your films.

I got acknowledgment from the American Consul to the effect that every this had been sent down to you and I sincerely hope it has now reached its destination.

Trusting that the last part of the journey was all right and that you returned home fully satisfied with the results of you journey.

Very sincerely yours.

E.P. Thornton-Dailly

E.P. THORNTON-DAILLY.

All fares quoted are taken from the latest information available, but are subject to alteration without notice

E. P. THORNTON - DAILLY
BUKAVU
BELGIAN CONGO

P. O. BOX 188
CABLES : "THORNTON"
TELEPHONE 413 - 145

TOURIST AGENT
ORGANISER AND OPERATOR
OF MOTOR TOURS

INSURANCE

BUKAVU June I7 th I955.

JUN 17 1955

Dr. Waldo SCHMITT.
Head Curator of Zoology
U.S. National Museum
Washington 25, D. C.
U. S. A.

Dear Dr. Schmitt,

As you requested, I am handing you herewith six itineraries, at bottom of each you will find the price to be paid; depending on either there are two, three or four people travelling together.

As I told you, I always reckon on three people travelling in one car, but there are of course always exceptions and therefore you will find the price for four people travelling into one car, but once again I do not advise travelling more than three.

I have, following our conversation, once again gone through my files with regards to the quotations as submitted to the A.A.A. for your own journey. My first quotation, dated November 30th was $ 30.- per day and per person, my next quotation, dated February 7th, gave the following detail:

Iº 45 or 30 day trip, 26 dollars per day and per person.
This includes all expenses en route from the time the party reaches Matadi until they embark from Bukavu for Juba.
It does not include any train, boat or air fares.

2º Cost of european accompanying the group 20 dollars per day.
This european will join the group as from the time the group arrives in Stanleyville.

This was when your party should have left Bukavu by air. Finally, on March 2nd, I confirmed the quotation given on February 7th when it was decided that your party would go on to Entebbe, the only difference beeing the number of days during which your party would be travelling with my organization.

.../...

All fares quoted are taken from the latest information available, but are subject to alteration without notice

.../...

I hope this point will make the question clearer as far as I am concerned, and no doubt you will be able to clarify the point with the A.A.A. when you get back.

Trusting that the end of your journey to Entebbe will have worked out to your complete satisfaction and wishing you God's speed and all the best to you and the members of your party,

Very sincerely yours.

E.P. Thornton-Dailly

E.P. THORNTON-DAILLY.

E. P. THORNTON - DAILLY
BUKAVU
BELGIAN CONGO

P. O. BOX 188
CABLES: "THORNTON"
TELEPHONE 413 - 145

TOURIST AGENT
ORGANISER AND OPERATOR
OF MOTOR TOURS

INSURANCE

BUKAVU April 12th 1955.

Dr. Waldo Schmitt.
"Smithxonian-Bredin Belgian Congo Expedition."
Palace Hôtel.
L E O P O L D V I L L E.

Dear Dr. Schmitt,

I have just received your letter dated April 9th in Léopoldville.

Although I have been in contact, by letter, with Dr. van den Berghe of IRSAC, regarding your stay there, I have not, in any way, been informed that you would have at your disposal one of his men.

The car and truck left Bukavu this morning and I just managed to instruct my representative, Mr. Dick, to call at IRSAC and inquire if the man had yet left; if not, he shall be taken in the truck and you will thus have him when you arrive in Stanleyville.

I sincerely hope that the rest of your luggage will reach Stanleyville, on the 20th.

For your information, INEAC-Yangambi will meet you in Stanleyville and take you to Yangambi. While there, my representative, Mr. Dick, will remain in Stanleyville and can thus do whatever possible toget the remaining part of your luggage.

I have just received also a letter from the gentleman in charge of the Gangala na Bodio station. He informs me that besides what has been done for you by Mr. Van Straelen, you will have to get a special permit from the Governor General, in Léopoldville. No doubt you can obtain this through the American Consul.

Trusting that all will be in order, and looking forward to meeting you.

Sincerely yours,

E.P. Thornton-Dailly

E.P. THORNTON-DAILLY.

All fares quoted are taken from the latest information available, but are subject to alteration without notice

Apr. 17

Dear Mr Thornton, Your very welcome letter of April 12th has just been delivered to me. I owe you and Dr. van den Berghe an apology. I was unable to take up his offer of a man until the day I wrote you on the 9th. I addressed him in the same mail asking if ~~were~~ practical that I would be happy to accept the loan of his man but that only you could decide if there would be room for him, asking him to contact you. I'm sorry things got jambed because my lack of promptitude, but sincerely hope that it will all work out happily. // We've had the devils own time about our film we wanted to mail it out as exposed ~~my~~ with the Dep. flight customs official here in town. He's obdurate unless we take it out personally we must pay duty (25%) on it Nobody wants to defraud the Government we just want better film, which it will be if developed the sooner. However if the Amer

ican Consul seals his pouch in the presence of this officer, he will let it out but we can only do this twice once from here (Leo) and once from Stanleyville because each time the "darned" transit paper (for the film) has to be mailed back and forth. So much for current troubles.

I'm sure things will go smoother with Mr. Dick about. The Yangambi news is encouraging. We are anxious to see the folks here too. Best of all is your warning about the further sanction needed from the Gov. General for Gangula. Here's hoping that Mr MacGregor can put that over too. We have given him an awful lot of trouble which he's most cheerfully shouldered for us. Once we are out of this town I feel that we'll really be on our way.

Thanks again for your letter, and with kindest regards

Sincerely

Walter S. Schmid

E. P. THORNTON - DAILLY
BUKAVU
BELGIAN CONGO

P. O. BOX 188
CABLES: "THORNTON"
TELEPHONE 413 - 145

TOURIST AGENT
ORGANISER AND OPERATOR
OF MOTOR TOURS

INSURANCE

BUKAVU 20th March 1955.

Dr. Waldo SCHMITT
Head Curator
Department of Zoology
Smithsonian Institution
United States National Museum
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.
U.S.A.

Dear Dr. SCHMITT,

Your letter of March the 9th with enclosures to hand.

By same mail, I also received a letter from the A.A.A. by which they forwarded a final itinerary. No doubt you have received same.

You will of course note that this final itinerary does not concur with what you write in your letter referred to above. I have therefore drawn up the final itinerary which embodies both your suggestions and those of the A.A.A.

I have now taken all steps in accordance with this itinerary for reservations of hotels, tribal dances etc.; I have also written to the various Institutions such as INEAC and IRSAC giving them definite dates for your visits in Yangambi, Gangala na Bodio, Lwiro, Uvira and Astrida.

You need not worry about accomodations in these various outposts as, from experience, I know they are always glad to have as guests any scientific people who visit the Congo.

Regarding heavy gear and equipment, you will have at your disposal a one ton truck which will easily be able to carry all your equipment throughout the journey thus avoiding your being without part of this equipment at any given time.

Looking forward to meeting you in the near future,

Sincerely Yours,

E.P. Thornton-Dailly

E.P. THORNTON-DAILLY

All fares quoted are taken from the latest information available, but are subject to alteration without notice

F I N A L I T I N E R A R Y.

April 8 : Dr. SCHMITT and Dr. BAKER - Arrive Leopoldville
April 9 :
April 10 : At leisure
~~April 10~~ : Dr. Secton and son - Arrive Leopoldville
~~April 10~~
April 11 : In Leopoldville
April 16
April 17 : Leopoldville to Stanleyville - Sabena SN 404
Arriving Stanleyville at 4 pm.
April 18 : In Stanleyville
April 19 : Stanleyville to Ponthierville
April 20 : Ponthierville - Biondo - Munione - Ponthierville
April 21 : In Ponthierville
April 22 : Ponthierville to Stanleyville
April 23 : Stanleyville to Yangambi
April 24 : In Yangambi
April 25 : Yangambi to Stanleyville
April 26 : Stanleyville to Nya-Nya
April 27 : Nya-Nya to Paulis
April 28 : Mangbetu Dances in the morning
Paulis-Niangara in the afternoon
April 29 : Niangara to Gangala na Bodio
April 30 : In Gangala na Bodio
May 1 : Gangala to Nioka
May 2 : Nioka to Bunia
May 3 : Bunia - Kasenyi - Mont Hoyo
May 4 : In the morning Pygmy dance
In the afternoon to Mutwanga
May 5 : In Mutwanga
May 6 : Mutwanga to Ishango
May 7 : Ishango to Beni
May 8 : Beni - Moera village - Butembo
May 9 : Butembo to Rwindi camp
May 10 : Full day visit of Albert National Park
May 11 : Rwindi to Kisenyi
May 12 : In Kisenyi : Watuzi dances
May 13 : Kisenyi to Bukavu
May 14 to May 17 : In Bukavu
May 18 : Bukavu to Uvira
May 19 to May 21 : In Uvira
May 22 : Uvira to Astrida
May 23 : In Astrida
May 24 : Astrida to Gabiro
May 25 : in Gabiro ~~to Nbarara~~
May 26 : Gabiro to Nbarara
May 27 : Nbarara to Entebbe
May 28 : Entebbe to Juba by air, departure at 9.45 a.m.

Apr. 8-30 = 23
May 1 - 28 or
52 days

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

March 10, 1955

Mr. K. P. Thornton-Dailly
Bukavu
P.O. Box 188
Belgian Congo

Dear Mr. Thornton-Dailly:

Herewith the list of our twelve boxes of chests, their contents in brief following dimensions in inches, over-all cubic feet, and individual weight. Most of it is collecting gear, and photo supplies and equipment. All this has been forwarded to Stanleyville, and will be picked up there; however, as mentioned in the letter written earlier in the day, could we not forward part of it, some 300 pounds, in three chests of the size of numbers 4,5 and 11 by commercial freight (auto-truck) carriers ahead, to be picked up later in our travels? This would make it easier to haul what we will need to have with us to collect and to preserve and store what we collect. Would also save unstowing all these boxes if they were all carried along in a second auto, which as you so very pertinently remark had better be a small truck. If we ship three ahead we would have numbers 1 to 3, and 6 to 10 left; number 12 is too small to cause us any trouble. There would be no harm or great inconvenience in storing a few of the smaller ones (such as number 6 or 7, or 8 to 10) atop the others, though the easier we can get at the contents of any one chest the better. It's too bad we have to handle things at such long distance, but with your advice we will surely make a successful go of it.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Addendum

As long as we are now going to Faulis for a Mangbetu dance, there is one thing I would like to do there. You have perhaps read Tom Harvel's book "The New Congo" (1949)? He mentions the Mangbetu music and dancing, Chief Tongolo, and his daughter, Akesi, as the best dancer. If there is anything to Harvel's account, I'd like to meet the lady and the Chief if they are still around. It would be something to tell about and might even flatter the principals to have us seek them out.

We do have a polaroid camera along and hope enough film to satisfy at least some of the natives with whom we may have dealings.

We still have time for another exchange of letters if there is something more I need to know before we start. There is an awful lot I need yet to learn.

Equipment for Smithsonian-Brodin
Congo Expedition

Box No.	Contents	Wide High Deep	Cu. ft.	Wt. lbs.
1	Entomological collecting gear, portable table(Baker)	40 x 23½ x 16	8.8	174
2	Collecting gear, portable table table (Cadwalt), 3 photo tripods(Sexton)	40 x 23½ x 16	8.8	158
3	entomological supplies (Baker)	28 x 20 x 19½	5.7	108
4	Coleman lantern, photo film (Sexton)	23½x19 x 19½	5.1	96
5	Camera case and film (Sexton)	23½x19 x 20	5.1	124
6	Formalin (1/2 1 lb. bils)plastic vials,ink	24½x17 x 10	4.1	84
7	Trinkets, candy, few plastic toys	24½ x 17 x 19	4.1	108
8	Liquid preservative	20 x 19½ x 15	3.4	102
9	" "	"		
10	" "	"		
11	" "	"		
12	Ammunition: 150 "410 shells" 200 "22" commercial load	9½ x 12½ x 7		

Addendum

As long as we are now going to Paulis for a Mangbetu dance, there is one thing I would like to do there. You have perhaps read Tom Marvel's book "The New Congo" (1948)? He mentions the Mangbetu music and dancing, Chief Tongolo, and his daughter, Akazi, as the best dancer. If there is anything to Marvel's account, I'd like to meet the lady and the Chief if they are still around. It would be something to tell about and might even flatter the principals to have us seek them out.

We do have a polaroid camera along and hope enough film to satisfy at least some of the natives with whom we may have dealings.

We still have time for another exchange of letters if there is something more I need to know before we start. There is an awful lot I need yet to learn.

C. B. R. 204143

March 7, 1955

American Consul
Matadi, Belgian Congo
For Smithsonian-Bredin Expedition
Leopoldville, Belgian Congo
c/o Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt

Express, N.Y.
Ocean freight on

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt ////////// Dept. of Zoology

12 wooden boxes

7 Collecting outfit

Collecting outfit, according to attached list, contained in 12 chests.

SENT
3-8-55
SHIPPING OFFICE, U.S.N.M.

March 9, 1955

Mr. E. P. Thornton-Dailly
Bukavu
P.O. Box 188
Belgian Congo

Dear Mr. Thornton:

I do appreciate the necessity of prompt decision regarding reservations. Last week the AAA was given permission to go ahead with them.

The idea of going by way of Buta was to strike collecting territory not usually visited, but with the Paulis question raised, I have come to the conclusion that we should skip Buta and proceed to Gangala-na-Bodio by way of Paulis via Nya-Nya, in order to be able to photograph the Mangbetu dance at Paulis. I hope there will be time (and the light at the time) to photograph it, as well as the two other dances you mention, Watuzi at Kisenyi and pygmies at Mont Hoyo. Though secondary to the objectives of the trip, we should film the dances for the purpose of embellishing the photographic record we hope to keep of our collecting operations and of the larger animals in the Parks. Yes, arrange for all three, and therefore for the Stanleyville Nya-Nya-Paulis routing in place of the one through Buta.

The matter of requesting guest-house privileges in the Parks and at the research stations is being handled more or less officially through the Smithsonian Institution. At the time we undertook to do this I did not know that you would or could handle that angle. However, do not hesitate to step into the matter. You probably know well all the parties concerned. Are not the charges for these accommodations included in the price to be furnished us by the AAA? The Bukavu reservations at the research station were requested as per enclosed carbon. You probably could ascertain whether they have been or will be granted quicker and more satisfactorily than I or the AAA could. If the research station were crowded or needed the space for other guests, we could go to a hotel. Under point 6º of your March 3 letter you mention Bukavu as the only possible complication. You had better look into these arrangements at your discretion, but under no circumstances should we pass up the station people or their

accommodations if they are counting on us. You know how "bug-hunters" enjoy getting together!

Thank you for your comments and advice regarding clothing, especially as regards raincoats. We shall do our best to come properly and adequately provided.

Now, as to "heavy" gear and equipment packed in chests. It is a problem any way you look at it, and perhaps half or near half is photographic. We have some tanks with preservatives, vials, bottles, and traps, plant press and driers, and a rig for concentrating soil and humus inhabiting organisms. So as to get this letter on to you promptly I am appending a listing of our impedimenta which is being compiled while the letter is being typed. The "list" may strike you as rather formidable. If it proves too much to take with us all at once conveniently, we may be able to divide it up in Stanleyville and freight some of it ahead by commercial auto truck or bus lines, which move along faster, to Bunia (or Irumu?) or even Costermansville, to be used, or picked up, at one or another of these places.

This letter and enclosure will have been passed upon by the AAA, if not mailed by them. Here's hoping that our two months in the Congo will not be too rainy; it will not greatly interfere with the land collecting, but will the native fisheries be in operation? If not, I shall be handicapped in getting river shrimp. Be that as it may, we shall be with you before long.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:LMc

E. P. THORNTON - DAILLY
BUKAVU
BELGIAN CONGO

P. O. BOX 188
CABLES: "THORNTON"
TELEPHONE 413 - 145

TOURIST AGENT
ORGANISER AND OPERATOR
OF MOTOR TOURS

INSURANCE

BUKAVU 3rd. March 1955.

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt,
Head Curator of Zoology,
Smithsonian Institution,
United States National Museum,
Washington 25, D.C.
U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Schmitt,

I have just received your letter dated February 23. As time is getting short, I will give you replies to your various questions as briefly as possible.

1º The itinerary must not necessarily be hard and fast. I have only established same on the information supplied.

2º Isangi could be visited provided an extra day is allowed.

3º If you have no particular reason for going through BUTA, it can be arranged to travel from Stanleyville to Paulis via Nya-Nya and ask the local administrator to arrange a performance of the Mangbetu dances. I must however have plenty of notice. Besides I have not included the cost of these dances which varies from Belgian Congo francs 2.000 to 2.500 in the quote remitted to the AAA.

4º The cost of proceeding either from Buta to Paulis or from Stanleyville to Paulis would be the same. If you had to go by train this would be an extra expense as, in any case the cars would have to go by road to pick you up in Paulis.

5º As explained in my previous letter to you (Feb. 7) reservations are a MUST, as means of communications in the Congo are very slow and we should run into a lot of trouble by having to make changes en route.

6º Guest house privileges as requested by you will not complicate matters as, in any case in the place you mention, with the exception of Bukavu(ex Costermansville) I would myself have requested these, because no hotel facilities exist in these out of the way spots.

7º Clothing:- The type of clothes you propose to use is quite correct. Basket-ball shoes are frequently used in the Congo. We use them when hunting.

All fares quoted are taken from the latest information available, but are subject to alteration without notice

7º cont. Shorts are worn during the day, but, in your case I am sure trousers will be better.
Rain-coats - another MUST but be sure to get something strong as pliofilm or plastic will get torn. Don't reckon on getting locally. Two pairs of basket-ball shoes will be necessary. You will be here during the rainy season.

8º Trade goods are somewhat out of fashion, except for the cheap ear-rings and such like for the women. It is most of the time the women who either refuse or accept to do what is asked from them or their menfolk.
If possible a polaroid camera should be taken along with plenty of film. This goes very well with the natives who are very keen on getting their pictures straight out of the bag.

9º Dancing:- In very rare cases is it possible to see some native dances. Those normally on view are the ones arranged through the local territorial administrators. Although they are the ones put on for the normal tourist they are well worth seeing.
In order of interest I should say they are as follows :- Mangbetu (Paulis) Watuzi (Kisenyi) Pygmies (Mont Hoyo).

I should very much appreciate having your views on the question of dances. If you wish to see them, I shall have to make advance bookings and, as this takes time, an early reply will be welcome.

With regards to your transportation there is one question which I would very much like to get as much detail as possible about. What will be the weight and the measurement of your collecting gear. It appears that the second vehicule will only serve to transport this. Would it not be better to have a small truck. If you can give me the details I shall be able to judge as, on the Congo roads one must be very careful not to overload.

Enclosed I am giving you a copy of the itinerary which I have sent to the AAA. If you agree with same, which I believe gives you good time for collecting in the most important places, I shall here also appreciate your giving me your acceptance at an early date.

I note from your letter that some of your gear will be going by freighter leaving New York about the 9th. of April. Are you sure it will be arriving in time? If the American Consulate does not handle this matter in Leopoldville I have my doubts. So please insist with the consulate while you are in Leopoldville.

Hoping the above information will meat your requirements and looking forward to hearing from you in the very near future.

Sincerely yours.

E.P.Thornton-Dailly

E.P.THORNTON-DAILLY.

P R O P O S E D
I T I N E R A R Y
for
Dr. Waldo Schmitt
&
Party

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

1	April 10	Sun.	Arrival in Leopoldville by air.
2	April 11	Mon.	Leopoldville to Matadi by air Sabena SN 455
3	April 12	Tue.	
4	April 13	Wed.	In Matadi.
5	April 14	Thu.	Matadi to Leopoldville by air Sabena SN 456
6	April 15	Fri.	
7	April 16	Sat.	In Leopoldville
8	April 17	Sun.	
9	April 18	Mon.	Leopoldville to Stanleyville by air Sabena SN 408
10	April 19	Tue.	In Stanleyville.
11	April 20	Wed.	Stanleyville to Ponthierville by car.
12	April 21	Thu.	To Biondo, Munionge and return to Ponthierville
13	April 22	Fri.	Canoe rapids and return to Ponthierville
14	April 23	Sat.	Ponthierville to Stanleyville.
15	April 24	Sun.	Stanleyville to Yangambi.
16	April 25	Mon.	In Yangambi. Local visits.
17	April 26	Tue.	Yangambi to Stanleyville.
18	April 27	Wed.	Stanleyville to Buta. (alternative) Stan - Nya. Nya
19	April 28	Thu.	Buta to Niangara. Nya. Nya - to. Paulis
20	April 29	Fri.	Niangara to Gangala na Bodio. In Paulis
21	April 30	Sat.	~~Buta to~~ In Gangala na Bodio. Paulis to Gangala
22	May 1	Sun.	Gangala na Bodio to Nioka. In Gangala
23	May 2	Mon.	Nioka to Bunia. Gangala - Nioka
24	May 3	Tue.	Bunia to Kasenyi and overnight in Bogoro. Nioka to Bunia, (drop Bogoro)
25	May 4	Wed.	Bogoro to Mont Hoyo. Bunia - Kasenyi - Mont Hoyo
26	May 5	Thu.	Mont Hoyo to Mutwanga.
27	May 6	Fri.	In Mutwanga.
28	May 7	Sat.	Mutwanga to Ishango (North end of Lake Edward).
29	May 8	Sun.	Ishango to Beni.
30	May 9	Mon.	Beni to Moera village and return to Beni.
31	May 10	Tue.	Beni to Ruindi.
32	May 11	Wed.	Ruindi
33	May 12	Thu.	Ruindi to Kisenyi.
34	May 13	Fri.	Kisenyi.
35	May 14	Sat.	Kisenyi to Bukavu.
36	May 15	Sun.	In Bukavu. with local visits until
37	May 19	Thu.	Bukavu to Uvira.
38	May 20	Fri.	In Uvira until
39	May 23	Mon.	Uvira to Astrida.
40	May 24	Tue.	Astrida to Gabiro.
41	May 25	Wed.	In Gabiro
42	May 26	Thu.	Gabiro to Mbarara.
43	May 27	Fri.	Mbarara to Entebbe.
44	May 28	Sat.	Entebbe to Juba by air.
45			

-o-o-o-o-o-o-

February 23, 1955

Mr. Eric Thornton-Dailly
Post Office Box 188
Bukavu, Kivu, Belgian Congo

Dear Mr. Thornton:

I've wanted to write you personally for some time but as I had started to work through the AAA, I felt duty bound to so continue. As you remark, they did forward to you a letter I had prepared asking various questions that plagued me about the way things are done on these Congo tours. But now I have to jump in with both feet regarding some other things. In the first place, Mr. and Mrs. Bredin have most unfortunately had to postpone joining the rest of us at the start. They hope to join us later but cannot now set the time. Thus, there will be but four, and we shall now fly to Leopoldville instead of going to Matadi by steamer. The four are Dr. Sexton (physician to the party) and his son, who will be our official photographers; Dr. Edward Baker, who takes Dr. Wharton's place as mite specialist, and myself. Our heavier collecting and photographic gear will be sent by freighter leaving New York about the 9th of April with Stanleyville as its destination. For this the second auto is needed from Stanleyville out. One box or chest will be held in Leopoldville for whatever collecting we do there to be shipped home from Leopoldville. We hope to enlist someone from the American Consulate to see that the Stanleyville shipment gets off promptly to Stanleyville so that it will be there and waiting when we take to the autos.

The itinerary which I sent you, and on which you and the AAA have been working, isn't all that I might wish. Does it have to be so hard and fast? For instance, beyond Yangambi is Isangi. Could we work it in after I see you (Stanleyville?) or the guide whom we may have? Also, going from Butu to Niangara, we miss Paulis. Would it be more advantageous to go by train from Buta to Paulis or by auto from Stanleyville to Paulis and Niangara instead of by way of Buta? Could these changes be made? We can hardly determine that from this end and must await getting at least our feet on the ground in the Congo. If changes are not practicable or easy to make later we'll stick with what we have.

Further, we are, through the Smithsonian Institution, officially asking for guest house privileges (paying the usual fees) at Yangambi for 2 nights, Gangala-na-Bodia for 2 nights, Costermansville for about 5, Uvira Hydrobiological Station for 2-3 nights, Kagera Park for 2

nights. I think I indicated the possibility of this on that earlier itinerary sent to you. We expect also to be permitted as a scientific party to travel the main road in the Garamba park for photographic purposes at least. We are corresponding with Dr. Van Straelen about this. He is a friend of many years standing. I hope these guest house privileges which we may be granted will not complicate things. Suppose we want to stay a day longer in some one place? Will it upset the whole apple cart or can we, by extra driving between following points, make up the time? But, as I said above, if we can't change plans we will have to take things as they are.

I'm still trying for an experienced skinner for small animals. Have most recently written to Dr. Louis van den Berg. No one else has given me any hope.

As to clothing, a hat to protect the head against sun, of course. Personally, I'm not so keen about the proverbial helmet; other members of the party may fall for them. But these, as other appropriate wearing apparel,can be bought after we land in Leopoldville. In the field I always wear khaki trousers and expect to in the Congo. As a collector I have little use for "shorts" but understand they are worn evenings and in hotels,--rain-coats? What is recommended? Pliofilm or plastic, or something to be bought locally?

Shoes? In South America, Rio south, I always wore rubber soled ankle high canvas shoes, what we call basket-ball shoes because they are used when playing that game. Again, Ive read somewhere that rubber soled shoes should not be brought to the Congo. Still, for the 2 months,more or less,that we shall be there, what difference?

Are the natives too sophisticated to fall for"trade goods?" I have it in mind to bring a carton of small airplanes (plastic or metal) such as the children use for toys. What about small model autos also? Some one has said that sport shirts go far, especially gaudy colored ones. Any little advice along these lines would be appreciated; but the more I read about the Congo of today, the more it would seem that monetary tips are the expected things, that trade goods would be out of place and perhaps subject to high customs duties. Please air mail me an answer to this paragraph by return mail.

We would like to see some authentic native dances, not just tourist show offs; but for the real article I suppose you have to meet the dates the natives naturally and normally put them on. Some are very colorful and worth both color movies and tape recordings. Still, we'll take what we can get. What cost native dances?,-any at Biondo, Wagenia, Watusi? Pygmies? Paulis is not on our itinerary. Are there not some famous (?) dances held there, too. Fitting in tangential things, I thought we might talk over after we got started. Any chance of shifting any of the reservations forward or backward a day or two? I believe I've already asked you this question. Thanking you for your patience with my detailed questions,

Sincerely yours,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator of Zoology

WLS:VB

E. P. THORNTON-DAILLY
BUKAVU
BELGIAN CONGO

P. O. BOX 188
CABLES: "THORNTON"
TELEPHONE 413 - 145

TOURIST AGENT
ORGANISER AND OPERATOR
OF MOTOR TOURS

INSURANCE

BUKAVU 7th. February 1955

Dr. Waldo Schmitt,
Head Curator,
Dept. of Zoology,
Smithsonian Institution,
United States National Museum,
Washington 25, D.C.
U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Schmitt,

Many thanks for your letter dated the 22nd. of January and which was sent on to me by the AAA.

I have this day sent the AAA all details and quotations regarding your forthcoming journey and hope that these will allow you to make definite plans.

Should one of the members of the party fall out after one, two or three weeks, the rebate would be Frs. 400 per day this amount representing the cost of food and accommodation.

With regards to the other quotations no doubt the AAA will be passing same on to you.

I shall be glad to hear from you at the earliest possible moment with regards to your date of arrival in Matadi as well as to which of the itineraries you have decided on. As explained to the AAA some of the hotels in which you will eventually be staying are small and to arrive there without advanced bookings would be taking a great risk, considering the party will be six strong including the european who will be taking your party along.

I will do my very best to try and go with you myself but I can not promise as unfortunately basic work in Bukavu requires my presence more and more.

Looking forward to hearing from you in the near future and assuring you of my best services at all times.

Very sincerely yours.

E.P. Thornton-Dailly

E.P.THORNTON-DAILLY

All fares quoted are taken from the latest information available, but are subject to alteration without notice

Congo file

January 22, 1955

Mr. Eric Thornton-Dailly
Post Office Box 188
Bukavu, Kivu, Belgian Congo

Dear Mr. Thornton:

I have been wanting to write you ever since Mr. Mark Evans spoke so enthusiastically of your services to his party during their three weeks in the Congo this past year. Dr. James B. Chapin, whom I have known from years back, and whom you know well since he has taken up residence in your part of the world, tells me that the American Automobile Association has had some contact with you regarding my contemplated trip. ~~Although~~ We have had to make several substantial changes in the itinerary which they originally furnished us, in order to gain time for collecting. The Association will arrange our transportation to the Congo and return, by ship in part and by air, also the plane flights from Leopoldville to Stanleyville, and from Costermansville (Bukavu) to Juba, as well as the trip down the Nile to Cairo and thence home.

Inasmuch as the AAA seems either directly or through some agent to have been in touch with you, you may well have planned a considerable part of their itinerary, and may again be called on to make further representations regarding the places we now want to visit. Be as it may, we shall have about two months or a little more for the entire trip. We want to leave New York on the Belgian-African Line as near the first of April as possible, hoping to arrive in Matadi about the middle of the month, and from there out spend either 45 or perhaps only 30 days in the Congo, from Leopoldville (Matadi) to Bukavu. Flying from Bukavu to Juba we must make one of two boats down the Nile, May 15 or May 29. Making the former would limit our Congo stay to 30 days; making the latter would permit the 45 day tour as outlined. This, most of us would prefer. We must be back in the states not later than June 21, and indeed one of us before June 10. He would have to fly home from Bukavu.

The itinerary we have worked out here in consultation with Dr. Roger Coustry of the Belgian Embassy is enclosed. As you will see the first 7 days are the same for either itinerary. From Stanleyville out there is the longer 45 day haul by way of Buta and Cangala na Bodio to

Bukavu, and ending with a short run through Ruanda-Urindi to Astrida and back to Bukavu; the shorter 30 day trip goes through Nia Nia to Irumu, Bunia and then over much the same route to Bukavu as the longer one, but omitting the brief Ruandu-Urundi circuit.

Our party will consist of five people; the sponsor of the expedition, Mr. Bruce Bredin and his wife (she h[redacted] may stay only for part of the trip with us; two invertebrate zoologists, of whom I am one and Dr. George Wharton of the University of Maryland, the other; and a physician-photographer, Dr. Roy Lyman Sexton of Washington. We are not interested in game hunting or shooting birds in general. The studies to be made in the field are to be of shrimps and crabs and the smaller animal life of the area, much of which can be secured with native help especially at their local fisheries; also to be collected are mites and ticks parasitizing plants and small vertebrates. To catch the latter live traps will be brought along; bats and some birds may be taken or shot to see what they carry in the way of external parasites. Permission for taking such specimens will be officially requested of the proper Belgian authorities. We want to collect when and where we can but the limitation on time will certainly keep the bulk down. The photographer plans to keep a film record of our operations as practicable and besides pictures of animal life in the parks, hopes to photograph characteristic native scenes, tribal dances, and some of the canoe exploits of the natives in the Biondo-Ponthierville area of which we have been told (Stanley Falls?).

Would it be possible to secure your services as guide as did the Mark Evans party, for the part of our trip from Stanleyville on and to the eastern Congo ending in Bukavu? Drs. Chapin and Vercammen-Grandjean speak most highly of your thorough knowledge of the Congo, its wildlife and natives, which makes us hope that your participation can be arranged. We may also have need for an assistant who can prepare study skins of small mammals and birds and perhaps help with the collecting and preservation of other animals, but properly qualified men of this sort, we are told, are all employed, usually at some research station. We are approaching the Belgian authorities with a view to borrowing an assistant of this sort from one or another research center with the understanding that we take care of his expenses. At least we have hopes.

Now, as to collecting gear, we shall bring that which is to be used in the Leopoldville area with us on the ship. That for use out of Stanleyville and on the way to Bukavu will have to be delivered to that place ahead of our arrival. We shall arrange that from this end. It will consist of perhaps four or perhaps (perhaps not) five chests measuring 21 x 18 x 20 inches or their equivalent in bulk. This impedimenta calls for a second car of some sort; the part-time assistant would also need a seat. This second auto would also be an advantage if at some stops the party wished to go off in two directions, one to collect, the other to photograph, or if we wished in the parks to get movie shots of the animals from different angles. At Leopoldville there would not be much collecting gear and we would be operating directly out of headquarters (the hotel). There I suppose we could hire a second auto as needed, but from Stanleyville we shall need two cars.

Please quote us the cost of the 30 day and also the 45 day tour, Matadi to Bukavu, as set forth in the itinerary herewith, with cost of flight from Leopoldville to Stanleyville as a separate item per passenger, as one member of our party will have a Sabena round trip, N.Y. to N.Y. (likewise the Bukavu-Juba flight). The specifications regarding travel, accommodations, meals, and ocean travel I assume would be as set forth in the original AAA itinerary. That "Contract" form is enclosed. It tells us what to expect and what not. What rebate will there be if one member of our party drops out after 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 weeks? Were you included in the 45 Congo days of the itinerary the AAA first furnished us? We sincerely hope that we can have you with us from the time we land in Stanleyville.

This letter may be forwarded to you by the AAA and may include some further statement from them. I do not know as this letter is being written on a week-end and will not reach their office here in Washington until Monday morning. Time is getting shorter by the day and we do not want to be too late with all our wants, therefore a favorable reply, including quotations, at your early convenience would be most keenly appreciated.

Here's to seeing you next April!

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

Enc.

Van den Berg, Louis

Filed: Belgian Congo

INSTITUT POUR LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE EN AFRIQUE CENTRALE

INSTITUUT VOOR WETENSCHAPPELIJK ONDERZOEK IN CENTRAAL AFRIKA

Direction Congo belge

65.110 -E.I/3
DC/MK.

Lwiro (Katana) September 2, 1955.
D.S. Bukavu.

Dear Dr. Schmitt,

I am sorry for answering so late your kind letters of July 25 and 27.

If you do not succeed in getting out from under the accumulated corespondence on your desk, I may as well tell you that I am not succeeding in getting out from under the accumulated conferences which are being held here since August. And there are more to come.

Many thanks for furnishing our Library with a complete set of Smithsonian and National Museum publications. They will be most valuable for us. Mr. Dereine will arrange the question of shipping with Mrs. MacCarthy.

Many thanks again for your kind help in this matter.

I will be very pleased to hear from you again in the next future and hope that you will not forget your promise to keep in touch with us from time to time.

Sincerely yours,

Louis van den Berghe,
Director.

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology
Smithsonian Institution
U.S. NATIONA L MUSEUM
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.
U.S.A.

August 18, 1955

Air Letter

Dr. Louis van den Berghe, Director
IRSAC
Lwiro (Katana) D. S. Bukavu, Belgian Congo

Dear Dr. van den Berghe:

On July 25 I wrote you about the note book that Emmanel Kitwa kept of the measurements of the small mammals he skinned for me. That letter should have waited a few days because shortly thereafter my several chests, that I had shipped from Entebbe, arrived here at the Museum. When we unpacked the mammals we found the note book with them. Again I want to praise Emmanel's thoughtfulness. He is really an exemplary man, thoughtful, helpful, well trained, and efficient. No one traveling in your part of the world could ask for a more useful and faithful assistant.

I am trying to get my notes organized so that I might write a little narrative account of our expedition, with the press of Museum routine, of which things go slowly; but you will certainly hear from me from time to time.

I am very appreciative of the many courtesies that you have shown me and that were extended me at your laboratory in Lwiro. Kindly remember me to our mutual friends there.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

WLS:vb

July 25, 1955

Dr. Louis van den Berghe, Director
IRSAC
Lwiro (Katana) D. S. Bukavu, Belgian Congo

Dear Dr. van den Berghe:

I had a wonderful trip and really think that we obtained some very interesting results. They will largely be in the field of Acarology because Dr. Baker was most successful in his collecting. Among the more valuable things that we were able to get were the small mammal skins prepared by Emanuel Kitwa, whom you and Dr. Pirlot so kindly lent to our expedition. In parting company with Kitwa I failed to get from him the little notebook that he kept of the measurements of the animals that he skinned. Won't you ask him for it and send it on to me at your convenience?

I have been wanting to write up a brief account of our Congo visit but have not yet succeeded in getting out from under the accumulated correspondence on my desk. I hope soon to acknowledge the many courtesies extended me by the many friends we made in the Congo; but that will have to follow these various letters checking on the unaccomplished details of which this notebook kept by Emanuel is one.

I have taken up the matter of furnishing your library at the station at Lwiro with a full set of Smithsonian and National Museum publications. You will recall I was surprised to see how little you have received from us. Mrs. Eileen McCarthy, who is in charge of the distribution of all publications, has put your station on the mailing list for a complete set of our publications and she is making a rather large shipment of as many back numbers of the Institution's annual report, the Museum Proceedings, and other serial publications, as she can locate. I am writing Mr. Dereine to this effect also.

One question has arisen, and that is the address that she has on her mailing list for IRSAC at Bukavu. Is that the address under which you are now receiving some of our publications or is that an address apart from the present one at Lwiro? Mrs. McCarthy is interested in avoiding duplication in sending out publications.

I will write you further before long, more formally expressing my thanks to you for the help and courtesies extended us by you and various members of your staff. My kindest regards to you and yours.

Sincerely yours,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

LW Smith

van den Berghe, Dr. Louis
Filed: Belgian Congo

July 27, 1955

Air Letter

Dr. Louis van den Berghe, Director
IRSAC
Lwiro (Katana) D. S. Bukavu, Belgian Congo

Dear Dr. van den Berghe:

When I wrote you about the books that our publications office promised to send you I gave the matter of shipping them no thought. When questioned about it today I suggested that they write you for directions. You should shortly hear from Mrs. Eileen McCarthy, our chief of publications.

I understand that the best that we can do in forwarding the books is to deliver them to some African port where you could make arrangements for getting them to Lwiro. Sorry that we cannot send them all the way.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

WLS:vb

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY
ASTROPHYSICAL OBSERVATORY
NATIONAL AIR MUSEUM
NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
Washington 25, D.C.
U.S.A.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART
NATIONAL COLLECTION OF FINE ARTS
FREER GALLERY OF ART
INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE SERVICE
CANAL ZONE BIOLOGICAL AREA

~~Dear Mr. and Mrs.~~ May 16/55

Dear Dr. Van den Berghe,

You have already granted us many favors especially the opportunity to visit and sojourn here at Lwiro, but there is still one more great favor I must needs ask of you. — Dr. Herbert Friedmann, our curator of birds is working on the wax digestion by the "honey-guides" and has need of live specimens of these birds. I had hoped to get them through Dr. Chapin here, but he tells me that they are not common hereabouts. That is why I now appeal to you for help. With your and IRSAC's wide connections in the Congo and in Africa, I thought that you might be able to secure a few living specimens for shipment to the States, addressed to the Guggenheim Foundation, att. Mr. Henry Allen Moe, New York, New York. If the caged birds can be delivered to an Pan-

(passenger - pilots)

American Airlines Dr. Herbert Friedmann, Ornithological
Consultant, has been issued by Mr. Samuel
Prior, Vice-president of Panam. As they will not
live through a non-pressurized flight they must
go by passenger plane. The accompanying letter
from Dr. Friedmann gives some information re-
garding care and feeding. Any expenses
incurred in providing cages, food and capture
of the birds the Museum or the Foundation will
assume. I shall stand personally responsible to
you for this, so send me any bills. However
we do not wish to organize any special expe-
dition to secure the birds, it is our hope
that one of your staff or cooperating
agencies may be able to secure the birds
without too much trouble. It is with
the hope of discovering an enzyme capable
of digesting the waxy envelope of the tuberc-
losis bacillus that this honeyguide investi-
gation is being undertaken and given more
living "honey guides" to work with than has
heretofore been possible. There is a fair
chance that the study may prove suc-
cesful. Should you need further inform

In behalf of the members of the party forming this Smithsonian-Bredin expedition I wish here also to express our appreciation of the hospitality accorded us by you, the IRSAC staff here, and its staff. That microphotographic equipment has been made available to us for photographing a few plant mites, has been of great help and has somewhat simplified one of our greatest problems, — getting motion pictures of a few living mites, and their depredations. There is at least one outstanding instance of mite caused galls on the leaves of a tree before the guest houses we are occupying. Our pleasant visit here with you will long be remembered. Thank you for everything.

Sincerely

Mildred S. Schmidt

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

INSTITUT POUR LA
RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE
EN AFRIQUE CENTRALE

INSTITUUT VOOR
WETENSCHAPPELIJK ONDERZOEK
IN CENTRAAL AFRIKA

Direction
Congo belge

58.825 -P.I/3-P.I/II
LvdB/MK.

Lwiro (Katana) March 17, 1955
D.S. Bukavu.

Dear Dr. Schmitt,

Chapin and I are rejoiced to hear about your definite plans. I answered Dr. Carmichael at length and am only confirming hereby that we expect you at Lwiro 30 miles north of Bukavu on the Kisenyi road around noontime on May the 13th.

Please send your answer about the skinner whom I could lend you from Stanleyville on. There is the head taxidermist, an African fluent in french, of Dr. Pirlot our Mammalogist (rodents mostly) and will be of great use in many ways. We have here many rodents ectoparasites waiting to be determined. We would gladly make an arrangement with you about them.

Cordially as ever,

Louis van den BERGHE,
Director.

Dr. Schmitt,
Smithsonian Institution
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.
U.S.A.

AIR MAIL

24 February 1955

Dr. Louis van den Berghe
Director, IRSAC
Uvira, Belgian Congo

Dear Dr. van der Berghe:

I had the great pleasure of hearing you lecture in the auditorium of the Interior department in Washington when you told of the research stations maintained by your government in the Belgian Congo, but regrettably did not get to meet you personally. At the time I did not know that I was soon to have the good fortune of visiting that very wonderful country.

It now so happens that under the auspices of the Smithsonian Institution four of us will have the opportunity of collecting some of the smaller forms of animal (chiefly invertebrate) life of the region: Dr. Edward Baker, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture is chiefly interested in mites and ticks and their plant and animal host; myself who wishes to get shrimps and crabs, shells and perhaps some fish; and Dr. Roy Lyman Sexton who besides being a physician, will be our official photographer. With his son as assistant, he hopes to keep a photographic record of our travels and collecting, the places visited, and of the animals and natives seen. The expedition, if we may call it that, has been made possible by a Mr. and Mrs. Bredin of Wilmington, Delaware. They had planned to accompany us, but now hope that they may join us later. We also wish to visit the research stations on our itinerary especially those at Yangambi, Bukavu, and Uvira, and also the Garamba, Albert, and Kagera National Parks. If possible we would like to get guest privileges at these several places (paying of course the customary fees) so that we can meet members of the scientific staffs, and examine collections that may be maintained at these several places. Such official permits as we may need for travel and collecting are being requested by the Smithsonian of the Belgian Government.

We expect to arrive in Leopoldville about April 11, fly to Stanleyville on the 17th and go the rest of the way by automobile arriving in Bukavu about May 13th and Uvira about the 16th or 19th. However, I shall write you again when I have more definite dates of arrival at the various places.

Although Dr. Baker will give most time to plant mites, he hopes to secure some animal parasites, and may therefore with to trap small rodents and shrews, and perhaps shoot a few bats. Our greatest problem in this connection is to find some assistant in the Congo, if that is possible, for the skinning such of these animals as we may catch. Would it be possible to "borrow" such an assistant for our auto trip from Stanleyville to Bukavu or beyond? We would take care of his travel and expenses enroute, and when

our studies are complete share the specimens collected with the Belgian or Congo agencies concerned with such things. Trying to find such an assistant, I am told, will be difficult, but I keep hoping that it may be possible that a qualified native, or station assistant may obtain leave of absence for the several weeks that we shall have need of him. We could fly him to Stanleyville, and bring him back with us by auto.

I have also written letters to Drs. Jadin, Vercammen-Grandjean, Marlier, Hendrickx, LeCompte (at Yangambi) and Dr. James P. Chapin. The latter and Dr. Van Straelen have warned me of the difficulty of finding a trained assistant, but I am hoping that you may have one you can spare for a limited time.

In any case I shall be writing you again, and seeing you sometime in mid-May.

With kind regards.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

WLS:hg

P. S. I wrote the enclosed for Dr. Marlier, but did not have his intials to address him. Please pass on to him the enclosed letter.

INSTITUT POUR LA
RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE
EN AFRIQUE CENTRALE

Direction
Congo belge

INSTITUUT VOOR
WETENSCHAPPELIJK ONDERZOEK
IN CENTRAAL AFRIKA

83.640 - MV.

Lwiro (Katana), le 28 mars 1957.

W.L.S. APR 8 - 1957

Monsieur,

Nous venons de recevoir les publications que vous avez bien voulu nous envoyer, suite à notre demande du 27 octobre 1956.

Nous vous remercions très vivement pour l'aide apportée à compléter nos collections.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de notre considération distinguée.

M. L. Van der Borght

Pour le Chef de la Bibliothèque,
M.L. Van der Borght. (Mme)

Mr. Waldo Schmitt,
Head Curator,
Dept. of Zoology,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington 25, D.C. U.S.A.

Van Straelen, Dr. V.

AIR LETTER February 29, 1956

Dr. V. Van Straelen
Président de l'Institut
Institut des Parcs Nationaux du Congo Belge
Rue Montoyer, 21
Bruxelles, Belgium

Dear Dr. Van Straelen:

My French is not of the best, but I think I understand your letter of February 21.

It will be wonderful to have that first lot of material d'Ixodides at hand, and though you do have an overwhelming lot of Acariens, I am hoping that before too long Dr. Wharton and his colleagues will be ready to take on more material beyond the 7 to 800 specimens that you are transmitting at this time. I would write you more at this time, but I am leaving tomorrow for two months in the Caribbean. When I find time, I will drop you a card.

Always my best to you and yours. Lots of good luck.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:eek

ROYAUME DE BELGIQUE

INSTITUT
DES
PARCS NATIONAUX
DU CONGO BELGE

DIRECTION

BRUXELLES, le 21 février 1956
Rue Montoyer, 21
Télégr. : PARCNAT

W.L.S. FEB 24 1956

N°.....
(à rappeler dans la réponse)

Cher Monsieur Schmitt,

J'ai bien reçu votre aimable lettre du 7 février 1956, à laquelle je m'empresse de répondre.

J'ai effectivement reçu entretemps une lettre du Docteur G.WHARTON, en suite à laquelle nous lui proposons l'envoi d'une première collection d'Ixodides comprenant environ 700 à 800 exemplaires. Ce lot ne constitue qu'une petite partie du matériel que nous avons prêt à l'étude. Une seule des collections compte environ 75.000 Acariens.

En ce qui concerne la remise des duplicata, voici comment nous opérons. Après étude du matériel, la collection complète est retournée et déposée à l'Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique. Le Docteur WHARTON nous communiquera une liste de ses desiderata, après quoi les spécimens lui seront adressés, pour autant que la demande corresponde aux normes admises.

J'ai appris avec regret que les résultats des enregistrements cinématographiques réalisés au cours de votre voyage au Congo Belge n"ont pas répondu à vos espoirs. Heureusement il vous reste des scènes intéressantes qu'il me sera agréable de voir à l'occasion.

Veuillez croire, cher Monsieur Schmitt, en l'expression de mes sentiments distingués et dévoués.

V. Van Straelen

And with my kindest personal thoughts.

V.VAN STRAELEN.
Président de l'Institut.

à Monsieur W.L.SCHMITT
Head Curator
Department of Zoology
Smithsonian Institution
United States National Museum
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.
==========
U.S.A.

C
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Y

BRUXELLES, le 21 février 1956

Rue Montoyer, 21

INSTITUT
DES
PARCS NATIONAUX
DU CONGO BELGE

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Veuillez croire, cher Monsieur Schmitt, en l'expression de mes sentiments distingués et dévoués.

/s/ V. Van Straelen
and with my kindest personal thoughts.

V. VAN STRAELEN.
Président de l'Institut.

à Monsieur W.L.SCHMITT
Head Curator
Department of Zoology
Smithsonian Institution
United States National Museum
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
U.S.A.

AIR MAIL

February 7, 1956

Dr. V. Van Straelen, President
Institute of National Parks
of the Belgian Congo
Rue Montoyer, 21
Brussels, Belgium

Dear Dr. Van Straelen:

Your recent letter (No. 98.044, Monsieur le Conservateur en Chef) regarding your collections of Acarina, I forwarded forthwith to Dr. George Wharton, who is our leading acarologist and also the head of the newly-formed Institute of Acarology at the University of Maryland.

I did not realize that he would be so much more prompt than I am in writing you. In connection with his letter, I wish to assure you that whatever part of the material that he is allowed to retain in return for his report upon it will be eventually deposited with this institution. He is one of this Museum's most valued correspondents, and has had a standing arrangement with us that such collections as he builds up in the field of ~~ornithology~~ acarology will accrue to the National Museum when his studies upon the material have been completed. I do believe that all significant systematic collections should be eventually deposited in some large central institution such as ours and such as you have established in Brussels. Thus, whatever you send to Dr. Wharton will be safeguarded for all time to come. We understand, however, that all types and uniques, indeed, a first set of all material, must go back to your Museum or Institute, including all duplicates beyond those that you may permit Dr. Wharton to retain.

I do not know whether you recall some of my earlier letters or not, but Dr. Wharton is the man I had selected for my specialist for my recent trip through the Belgian Congo. It is only when he found that he could not get away from his University responsibilities that I accepted Dr. Baker as a substitute. Dr. Wharton has been a dear personal friend of mine for many years, and he and I were the joint founders of our Society of Systematic Zoology.

Have I told you before that we lost over half of our African film either through a faulty camera or faulty loading? I am quite sick over the moving picture results. Some of the very best parts of the film were fogged to such an extent that they cannot be used for public showing. What we salvaged--and there are many interesting scenes included--I hope to show you one of these days, either when you next visit the states, or when I again have an opportunity to come to Brussels.

Dr. Wharton is quite a busy man, but I am sure that his keen

interest in the Acarina, together with my desire that he accomplish something for you, will get you reasonably early reports on whatever you send his way. Better yet, if his present plans materialize, he may be calling on you next Fall, when he expects to visit Brussels.

My best good wishes to you and yours, your Institute, and the Museum; to our mutual friends at both places also.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLSchmitt:sek

Van Straelen, Dr. V.

January 27, 1956

Dr. V. Van Straelen, President
Institute of National Parks
of the Belgian Congo
Rue Montoyer, 21
Brussels, Belgium

Dear Professor Van Straelen:

Re: No. 98.044, Monsieur le
Conservateur en Chef

Dr. Schmitt has referred to me your letter to him concerning the specimens of Acarina collected in the National Parks of the Belgian Congo. The Institute of Acarology is in session for only three weeks each year (see enclosed description). However, a number of us who are involved with it spend a considerable amount of time working on the mites and ticks throughout the year. If you would be kind enough to send your first shipment, or perhaps just the ticks, if there are not too many, we will try to handle them sometime before the Institute meets this summer. When the Institute meets, I will discuss with the other members of the Institute the feasibility of handling the rest of the material.

Sincerely yours,

G. W. Wharton
Professor & Head, Department of Zoology
Director, Institute of Acarology

GWW:hhm

Enclosure

✓ cc: Dr. Schmitt

acarologisto

Van Straelen, Dr. V.

ROYAUME DE BELGIQUE

INSTITUT
DES
PARCS NATIONAUX
DU CONGO BELGE

DIRECTION

BRUXELLES, le 12 janvier 1956
Rue Montoyer, 21
Télégr. : PARCNAT

N° 98.044
(à rappeler dans la réponse)

Coll.sc.-D.

Monsieur le Conservateur en Chef,

Parmi les récoltes effectuées par nos chargés de mission dans les différents Parcs Nationaux du Congo Belge figurent des lots importants d'Acariens.

Nous venons vous demander si l'Institut d'acarologie est prêt à travailler et s'il serait disposé à entreprendre l'étude de ces matériaux.

En cas d'acceptation, nous pourrions effectuer un premier envoi à bref délai. Les manuscrits établis au départ de ces collections seraient publiés dans les recueils scientifiques de notre institution. Selon l'usage, cinquante tirés à part seraient réservés à l'auteur.

A vous lire à ce sujet, nous vous prions d'agréer, Monsieur le Conservateur en Chef, l'assurance de notre considération très distinguée.

LE PRESIDENT,

V. Van Straelen

V.VAN STRAELEN.

à Monsieur W.L.SCHMITT
Head Curator
Department of Zoology
Smithsonian Institution
United States National Museum
W A S H I N G T O N 25DC
==========
U.S.A.

Dr. V. Van Straelen

Filed: Belgian Congo

October 5, 1955

Air Letter

Dr. V. Van Straelen, Président
Institut des Parcs Nationaux
du Congo Belge
Rue Montoyer, 21
Bruxelles, Belgium

Dear Dr. Van Straelen:

Thank you for your letter of September 21. I will tell you more about our moving pictures when they are fully assembled. We have hopes of having something quite worthwhile.

The addresses I requested were sent me by Dr. De Saeger and in addition to the carte nosologique of the Royal Academy I am ordering several others. I appreciate being informed of them.

Thank you again for your help, both past and present. With kind regards,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:vb

ROYAUME DE BELGIQUE

INSTITUT DES PARCS NATIONAUX DU CONGO BELGE

DIRECTION

BRUXELLES, le 21 septembre 1955
Rue Montoyer, 21
Télégr. : PARCNAT

N° .....
(à rappeler dans la réponse)

Cher Monsieur Schmitt,

J'ai bien reçu votre aimable lettre du 25 août 1955, qui m'apprend le succès de votre voyage au Congo Belge et l'impression favorable que vous avez emportée de votre visite dans les différents Parcs Nationaux.

Vous aurez reçu entretemps l'adresse des représentants de notre institution avec lesquels vous avez été en contact.

J'ai lu avec satisfaction que la National Geographic Society s'intéresse aux films cinématographiques que vous avez enregistrées. J'espère avec vous qu'ils seront jugés acceptables pour être incorporés dans leur programme de conférences.

En ce qui concerne la distribution de la bilharziose au Congo Belge, je vous signale la publication d'une carte nosologique par l'Académie Royale des Sciences Coloniales. Vous trouverez ci-annexé une liste des différentes cartes parues avec mention de celle qui vous intéresse.

Veuillez croire, cher Monsieur Schmitt, en l'expression de mes sentiments distingués et dévoués.

V.VAN STRAELEN.

Président de l'Institut.

à Monsieur Waldo L.SCHMITT
Head Curator
Department of Zoology
Smithsonian Institution
United States National Museum
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.
==========
U.S.A.

van Straelen, Dr. V.

Filed: Courtesy letters,
BELGIAN CONGO

August 25, 1955

Air Mail

Dr. V. Van Straelen
Président de l'Institut des
Parcs Nationaux du Congo Belge
c/o IRSAC, 42, rue Montoyer
Bruxelles, Belgium

Dear Dr. van Straelen:

The most strenuous part of any expedition seems to come with its return. I have been literally swamped with office routine since getting back into harness here and have had little time to give thought to our accomplishments in the field. Even the writing of the annual report of the department of zoology was awaiting me at the Museum. I got back just two weeks before it was due. I am downright sorry that I did not allow myself more time in Brussells or give you forewarning of my coming. However, a week would not have sufficed, there was so much that we saw and lived through.

First of all we, the expedition, the Smithsonian, and I, owe you an untold debt of gratitude. But for you and the helpful letters you wrote in our behalf, there would have been few or no highlights to the trip. In each of your wonderful National Parks, we were most hospitably received and shown about all there was to see. You have exceptionally fine men in charge everywhere, people one is proud to know, to meet, and to remember. From them we learned a lot. We also had the opportunity to take what I hope will prove worthwhile moving pictures. We have not yet had time to examine them. The National Geographic Society here in Washington has promised to evaluate and to edit them beginning about four weeks hence as they are rather busy with other urgent things right now. The Society stages a very fine lecture series each winter and the Smithsonian authorities have high hopes that our films may qualify for a showing.

The Belgian Congo, as you well know, is a most remarkable part of the world;-as the American expression goes, "out of this world." It is a revelation to see what you people have wrought there. As you warned me we attempted too much in too little time. Instead of days and nights here and there, one should allow weeks and even months. Nevertheless we saw a lot, made fair collections--though smaller than I anticipated, and took a number of photographs. But we shall have to go far to equal those showed to Dr. Baker and me during our short visit to your National Parks Institute headquarters.

Throughout our fifty days in the Congo, we had remarkably auspicious weather, very little rain during daylight hours, and none that seriously discommoded us. Likewise, the temperatures, though high at times in the lower reaches of the Congo, at no time were as oppressive as those we suffered here in Washington, D. C., the latter part of July and in early August,-the humidity here has been high, 50-60 and indeed 95 according to redio broadcasts. When we were in Leopoldville the humidity must have been fairly low for we were quite comfortable. The nights were especially balmy and as I have since remarked many times, if we could package and market those balmy Belgian Congo nights here in our hot summer time we would make a fortune.

April 8 through 16 were spent in and about Leopoldville, but aside from plant mites we did not get much in the way of invertebrate animal life. The mites are going to prove the scientific mainstay of the expedition. Dr. Baker expects to reveal some remarkable results in the near future. The tropical plant mites in Africa are virtually unknown and so will undoubtedly yield us a host of new records, if not new species. We flew to Stanleyville on the 17th and stayed there until the 26th of April. Most of this interval was spent in and about the Wagenia fisheries where much is yet to be done. Has anyone ever written a rather complete account of the natives, their operations and catch? To all appearances that fishery is conducted today as it was ages before the white man ever came to Africa. All materials used in the traps and weirs are gathered in the jungles and forests across the river. Even the "ax" used to point the wooden piling looked primative enough to have been of antique native manufacture.

April 26 we took to our auto, the four of us and chauffeur guide, followed by a truck with our equipment and photo-supplies, and reserve gasoline,-two drums of it. Collecting was attempted in various streams as we moved from place to place but the natives all tried to tell us the water was still too high and swift for successful shrimp fishing and that the dry season was the better time for it. One thing that held us back was the fear of schistosomaisis (biharziasis). Has the Government ever published a more or less detailed map of the distribution of this disease, or rather parasite, in the Belgian Congo? At the Yangambi INEAC we were told the river and water courses were free of it. True that presence or absence of snails is indicative but how can one be certain that the snails may not have been overlooked.

At Paulis April 27-28, we witnessed and photographed (as does everyone else) the Mangbetu dance put on for tourists. We spent the night before Paulis at Nia Nia and the night after at Niangara.

On the 29th of April we arrived at Gangala-na-Bodio where your letter had preceded us. It was a most interesting place, but nothing to compare with the Garamba Park and the hospitable reception given us by your Park superintendent, Marc Mischá. After seeing the several large parks (except

Upemba) it is hard to say which is the finest or the most wonderful. They are all impressive. Certainly Garamba is a vast territory. It takes one back to unspoiled, original, primitive Africa, where everything is as it was before except for the natives hunting game. But that probably still takes place in remote sections. Mr. Haezaert at Kagera mentioned the crocodile poachers who come over from Tanganyika Territory at times, and Marc Mischá said that at times some of the elephants at Garamba were not to be trusted as they considered man an enemy having been hunted up near the Sudan border. Mr. Mischá and his charming wife entertained us at lunch between the fore-and-afternoon trips on which he took us through the park. Even so I judge we saw but a small fraction of that immense area. What a wonderful monument you have erected for yourself in this and the other magnificent parks you have set up under Government auspices. Here at Garamba, we made the reasonably close acquaintance of a sleeping white rhino. One learns to know his animals if fortunate enough to be a member of your staff.

From Garamba, after again spending the night (April 30) at Gangala, we proceeded to the INEAC station at Nioka, searching for more plant mites; then to Bunia and the fisheries at Kasenyi. Here we had our first good half day of rain. Fortunately we were in time to see the morning's haul of fish and get a sampling of them. The wealth of fish in your African lakes is astounding. Dr. Capart told me somewhat of the discovery and development of these lake fisheries.

After two days and a night, May 3 to 4, at Mont Hoyo, a beautiful place, we arrived at Mutwanga, and shortly thereafter called on your Mr. Klint (or is it Clint?) at Mutsora. He arranged our visit to Ishango, the wild life areas there, and the fishery on the Lake shore. There I was happy to make the acquaintance of Mr. Snoeke also. From him we got additional specimens of fish. Your introductions made us most welcome everywhere,-we could not have been better treated. The guest houses were very comfortable and the guides and house boys most helpful Next in line was Beni, and the Moera pygmy village, Butembo and its comfortable hotel and lodges, and Ruindi Camp which we reached on the afternoon of May 9. Here your Mr. Baert did the honors. The friendliness and hospitality extended us made each National Park visit a memorable occasion. It was as stimulating and interesting to talk with your Park managers or directors as it was to see the animals living native to each park. Do not think I am waxing overly enthusiastic. The receptions accorded us everywhere left nothing to be desired.

We stopped at Kisenyi on the afternoon of May 11, witnessed a Watusi dance staged for another group the next day, and reached Bukavu on the 13th. Enroute we called upon Major Galliaert, Rumangabo, for permission to collect samples of lava for our Museum geologist. Though the Major was absent, his assistant provided the necessary clearances and a guide. Here again your letters most beautifully paved the way. I would never have troubled you a second time about the lava except for insistent advice from certain quarters which also gave rise to other little difficulties, not connected with the park service or official reservations though.

From Bukavu out we visited Lwiro, Dr. van den Berghe, and the IRSAC station and Dr. James P. Chapin. The latter I had not seen for some years. He has a marvelous fund of information regarding things Congo, and especially concerning the avifauna. After about four days in Bukavu, during which Dr. Bredo invited us to a cocktail party at which we met most of the local scientific fraternity, we headed for Uvira on May 18. The hydrobiological laboratory is a wonderful place in a beautiful setting between the hills (mountains?) and the lake. You feel you are at the sea-shore when you look over that vast expanse of water that is Lake Tanganyika. One forenoon we paid our respects to Dr., now Governor, Harroy, He is a charming man. Dr. George Marlier, and his small staff are doing good work and have a laboratory that will serve biologists and limnologists well if they will but seek the means to get there.

From Uvira we hastened on to Gabiro and the Kagera Park by way of Astrida. We arrived on May 23 a day earlier than anticipated, but we were trying to gain an extra day for packing up our collections in Entebbe for shipment by rail to Mombassa and home.

The Kagera Park is a place to conjure with! When I enthuse about one of your Parks I must enthuse about all of them. Each has its special appeal and all are among the most wonderful places in the world. How fortunate and successful you were to get those magnificent Parks established. I cannot find the superlatives to express my admiration of the accomplishment. Yew, we did enjoy Mr. Haezaert and his family. Getting to know people like the Haezaerts, the Mischáš, the Clints, Baert, and the Marliers makes one realize that the younger generation of Belgians are very wonderful people indeed. There is one thought that takes precedence over all others, when I look back over my Congo experiences and that is how well the merit system has operated in the Belgian scientific services; I never have seen a finer, more capable lot of men than I met on this trip directing, and indeed working, in the National Parks and the various research stations. One cannot help but admire the Belgians for what they are doing and how they are doing it. It is only because there are men like yourself at the helm performing in so outstanding a fashion. This, I assure you, is from the heart, and is the note upon which this letter perhaps should end.

The Haezaerts entertained us twice in the two days we were at the Kagera Park. Mrs. Haezaert, moreover, prepared an appetizing lunch with a spice cake which she baked herself for our luncheon. I am glad that Mr. Haezaert could spare the time to show us around. Here, as in the other parks, I would have liked to linger longer, indeed I envy your Park superintendents their positions, for in the Parks one gets to live close to Nature, yet,in these days of air travel,is never too far from aid and the great cultural centers.

But now I have to confess to a bit of foolishness. I tried to pick up an unidentified small snake the last night in Kagera and of course was slightly bitten on my first left finger. As a precaution we injected antivenin obtained from Mr. Haezaert. There was no evidence of poisoning, nor either of paralysis or discoloration. The wound did get somewhat infected, with the result that I now have a new nail on that finger. Everything is now fine and dandy, as we say,-and I would go back to Africa tomorrow if offered the opportunity.

Leaving Gabiro in the early morning of May 25 we reached Entebbe that night only to learn that there were no plane reservations available although they had been requested from Washington more than two months before. There was nothing to do but to hire a car for the 500 odd mile trip to Juba to catch the fortnightly steamer down the Nile on May 29.

If ever you have the time and wish to take a real rest take that steamer to Kosti. I never spent a more pleasant seven days. The rail trip thence to Khartoum, on the other hand, was hot and dusty, but not as bad as the one from Luxor to Cairo. From Wadi Halfa to Shellal, June 9 to 11, we had two nights and a day more on the Nile again. It is an interesting and historic river. Egypt at any time of the year, and at any season, is worth a visit if only to see the temples and the Valley of the Kings. Yes, I climbed the great pyramid both inside and out. The outside can be done up and down in 20-30 minutes.

On the way home I stopped five days in Cannes where my daughter will be till early October. I regret that altogether too brief a time in Brussels where I missed you. I should have written in advance or stayed longer.

Since my return I have been trying hard to get our expeditionary matters in shape, while trying to reduce the mass, I should say mess perhaps, of the paper work that falls my lot. Evenings at home I've been cataloging our Kodachrome slides, and Rollifex prints. I am happy to say that the National Geographic Society is going to work over our films. It is the hope of the Smithsonian's part that they may find our motion pictures suitable for their winter lecture program. I have not yet more than glimpsed the ends of a few rolls. All is now awaiting the convenience of the Geographic Society which will start on the job the end of this next month. Our collections are now being processed, the outfit having arrived a week ago. Though I collected far less than I had hoped for or planned on Dr. Baker will be saving the scientific day with his far more numerous specimens of mites. Counting the small, as well as the larger specimens, we have something over 500 fish, 1,000 crustaceans, perhaps 30 mammals (skins, with bodies saved for skeletonizing), a small as yet uncounted collection of miscellaneous insects, some amphibians, and a considerable number of mites. Dr. Baker thinks these will result in considerably more than 5,000 slides when mounted.

Words alone will never fully express appreciation for all that you did for me and our "expedition". I thank you from the bottom of my heart. You will hear from me from time to time as things progress, and particularly when the film has been put in shape for projecting. I am also trying to get the letters written that I owe the many who helped and befriended us in the Congo, but I am woefully far behind,--to that this long overdue letter bears witness.

Again I thank you for everything, and then some.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

P. S.

Can your secretary let me have the correct, at least full name and proper address, for Marc Mischá, Mr. Clint or Klint, Baert, Snoeke, Major Galliaert, J. Haezaert (I have his complete address). You should yourself go back for a brief visit to see the fine crop of new babies that your field staff is enjoying, plump contented youngsters all under two years of age, I believe. A happy baby is one of the world's great pleasures and the Mischás, the Clints, the Snoekes and the Haezaerts are so blessed.

Have you perhaps an annual report or small directory of names of your staff that you can let me have? I still have a box of papers and publications enroute from Cairo, and another from Cannes, but do not now recall all that they contain. But for flying I would know better.

WLS:vb

van Straelen

Filed: Belgian Congo

7, Avenue Géo Bernier
Bruxelles

The 8th of July 1955.

My dear Waldo Schmitt,

You cannot imagine how sorry I felt when I got your short message, showing that you came to see me.

I hope that your all too short stay in Congo gave you and your friends some good scientific opportunities. Let me know more about your trip.

Sincerely yours,

P. Van Straelen

JUL 1 1955

Dr. Waldo Schmitt,
U.S. National Museum,
Zoological Department,
Washington D.C.
U.S.A.

INSTITUT DES
PARCS NATIONAUX
DU CONGO BELGE

DIRECTION

21, Rue Montoyer
BRUXELLES

Bruxelles, le 9-IV-55

My dear Dr. Schmitt,

The enclosed letters arrived under a single cover. This was opened by mistake by one of my assistants. Being in a hurry he did not notice to whom the letter was really bound.

Please accept my apologies for this unfortunate mistake.

Now, welcome to you and your friends who will become mine!

Sincerely yours
P. Van Straelen

Van Straelen, V.
Filed: Belgian Congo

March 25, 1955

Dr. V. Van Straelen, Président
Institut des Parcs Nationaux du Congo Belge
Rue Montoyer, 21
Bruxelles, Belgium

Dear Dr. Van Straelen:

Just a word to acknowledge your letter of March 4. I am looking forward to seeing you on the 6th of April in company with Dr. Baker. Dr. Sexton, who is to be our more or less official photographer for the expedition, will be unable to be with me. He has to go through Lisbon in connection with a medical conference to be held in the States later in the year. I tell you this because I had wanted a photograph of Dr. Baker and myself conversing with you about our Congo trip as part of the scientific film we hope to produce. Have you a friend with a 16 mm. movie camera who could take a color picture of the three of us together? The footage would not need to be long, but I am most anxious to have it, and will be only too glad to pay for his time and for the film that he may expend in our behalf.

I have just too much to do and too much to carry to bring along a movie camera of my own. Moreover, I haven't taken a moving picture for so long that I have never used the 16 mm. camera.

Here's to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:LMc

ROYAUME DE BELGIQUE

INSTITUT
DES
PARCS NATIONAUX
DU CONGO BELGE

DIRECTION

BRUXELLES, le 4 mars 1955.
Rue Montoyer, 21
Télégr. : PARCNAT

N° 89.929
(à rappeler dans la réponse)
Tour.-Aut.vis.

Cher Monsieur Schmitt,

J'ai l'honneur d'accuser réception de votre lettre du 23 février, qui m'apporte des détails complémentaires sur votre voyage.

Je serai heureux de vous rencontrer à Bruxelles le 6 avril. La meilleure façon de prendre contact serait de téléphoner au 12.27.74, à l'Institut des Parcs Nationaux du Congo Belge, pour arranger le moment du rendez-vous.

Par même courrier j'avertis les Conservateurs des différents Parcs Nationaux du passage de votre groupe en leur faisant part que la gratuité de visite lui a été accordé.

En attendant le plaisir de vous voir, je vous présente, cher Monsieur Schmitt, l'expression de mes sentiments distingués et dévoués.

V. Van Straelen

V. VAN STRAELEN,
Président de l'Institut.

à Monsieur Waldo L. SCHMITT
Head Curator
Department of Zoology
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
United States National Museum
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.
Etats-Unis.

FEB 2 8 1955

Dr. V. Van Straelen
Président de l'Institut des
Parcs Nationaux du Congo Belge
c/o IRSAC, 42, rue Montoyer
Bruxelles, Belgium

Dear Dr. Van Straelen:

As you have been informed, the Smithsonian Institution is sponsoring the Smithsonian-Bredin Expedition to the Belgian Congo for the purpose of collecting and studying primarily the invertebrate life of the region: the parasitic mites and ticks and their host plants and animals (rodents, shrews, bats, and perhaps in some cases, unprotected small birds), Crustacea, terrestrial and aquatic, as well as other arthropods, shells, fish, and such herpetological specimens as may be permitted.

The expeditionary party will consist of six people: a Mr. and Mrs. Bredin of Wilmington, Delaware; Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt of this Institution, carcinologist; Dr. Edward Baker of the United States Department of Agriculture, acarologist; Dr. Roy Lyman Sexton, medical consultant and photographer to the party, and his son Roy Lyman Sexton, Jr., who will assist his father. It so happens that Mr. and Mrs. Bredin find it impossible to take part in the expedition at the outset as originally planned, but they have high hopes of being able to join it at a later date in the field.

We write you as Président de l'Institut des Parcs Nationaux du Congo Belge as it is desired to visit several of the Parks under the jurisdiction of your Institut, namely the Garamba National Park, the Albert National Park, and the Kagera National Park, for the purpose of photographing the wild animal life there sheltered. In the first and last named parks guest house privileges, if available, are respectfully requested for two nights in each, with, of course, the payment of the customary fees for such accommodations.

At your suggestion a scientific hunting permit is being requested of the General Government of the Congo, through Monsieur F. Matagne, at Leopoldville, and such other permits as may be needed for the collection of the animals and plants (including ferns and grasses) indicated above. The two collecting pistols with which the party is provided will be declared on arrival in Léopoldville.

At this writing it is expected that the party will arrive at the Garamba National Park and Gangala-na-Bodio about April 28 or 29 for two nights, and at the Kagera Park for two nights about May 22 or 23. However, Dr. Schmitt will more precisely inform the officials in charge of these parks of arrival dates as soon as these can be definitely determined. In the Albert Park, which is generally open to visitors, it is planned to spend several days at both the Mutwanga and Ruindi camps under reservations secured through Mr. Eric Thornton-Dailly of Bukavu, who is handling also the hotel reservations enroute and providing the autos in which the party will be travelling, between Stanleyville and Costermansville and beyond. Permission to collect some specimens of lava in the Albert Park for our Department of Geology will be requested of the Conservateur of this Park by Dr. Schmitt on arrival.

An outline of the itinerary as at present determined, with dates, is enclosed for your information.

Drs. Schmitt and Baker will try to pay their respects to you at the Institut in Brussels on April 6th or 7th, as they are flying Sabena to Léopoldville on the late afternoon of the 7th.

Any courtesies that you may grant them and the Smithsonian-Bredin Expedition will be received with great appreciation by this Institution.

Cordially yours,

Leonard Carmichael
Secretary

W.Schmitt:vb
2:28:55

Van Straelen, V.
Filed: Belgian Congo

February 23, 1955

Dr. V. Van Straelen
Président de l'Institut des
Parcs Nationaux du Congo Belge
c/o IRSAC, 42, rue Montoyer
Bruxelles, Belgium

AIR MAIL

Dear Dr. Van Straelen:

I thank you for your most encouraging letters of January 27 and February 1, which I found awaiting my return from California.

Your helpful suggestions regarding permits for collecting and firearms, collecting pistols, and the matter of lava samples will be acted upon. I particularly appreciate the Guide Book and the hotel list. Of the former I have ordered two copies of the English edition for members of our party. The handsome volume dealing with the protected animals is also very welcome. It will be interesting to see and to photograph the larger Congo animal life as we get the opportunity, which I hope will be often. But our collecting, as mentioned earlier, will be confined wholly to the smaller forms of animal life, principally mites, ticks, their host plants and animals, crustacea of all kinds, other arthropods, mollusks, and fish as these may come to hand at the crustacean fisheries that we shall visit.

Barring accidents we hope to arrive in Leopoldville about April 9th and fly to Stanleyville on the 17th. From there the rest of the trip will be by auto so that we can be close enough to the ground to get out and collect and photograph. The only trouble with flying is the transport of collecting gear. This will not be so heavy but it is bulky. Most of it and the photographic equipment, movie camera, tripods, and so forth, we shall try to ship over in advance.

As you so well realized, we are trying perhaps to do too much in too little time. That is why we are flying to Stanleyville, omitting the Katanga area entirely. Another year, I hope that we may be able to visit the other parts of the Congo.

Official requests will be going out from the Smithsonian shortly. I would be most happy if it could be arranged that we could visit the Garamba National Park by way of the main road, mentioned by you, for purposes of making such photographs as you and as the officials stationed in the Park may permit. It is nice to know that it may be possible. We shall restrict our collecting to areas outside the National Parks but the opportunity of getting photographs is greatly appreciated.

The matter of stopping over at Gangala-na-Bodio will be taken up by the Smithsonian with the General Government in Leopoldville, as you suggest, as well as in the Institution's official letter to you. We would like to spend two nights, April 28-30, at Gangala-na-Bodio, so as to have at least one full day there and in the Park.

It does look now that we may also have at least two days for the Kagera Park, perhaps the 23rd to the 25th of May. Here, as well as at the research stations at Yangambi, Bukavu, and Uvira we are hoping to have the opportunity of stopping at their guest houses if there is room (paying, of course, the usual fees). Eric Thornton-Dailly is arranging most of our trip and I have told him that we may obtain these courtesies officially through the Smithsonian.

Thank you again for your most helpful letter, and literature concerning travel, hotels, and the protected animal life of the Congo. I hope that I may soon be able to convey my thanks to you in person, shortly after the first of April. Mr. and Mrs. Bredin, who are sponsoring our "expedition", find at the last minute that they cannot start out with us, but hope to join us later somewhere along the line; I hope at least for the boat trip down the Nile. Dr. Wharton, who was going for mites and ticks, cannot get away either, so Dr. Baker, co-author with Wharton of the "Introduction to Acarology," is going in his place. Thus, there will only be four of us for the greater part of the Congo trip. The other two members of the party as at present constituted are Dr. Sexton, physician, and his son as official photographers.

Good luck and best wishes to you!

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

WLS:vb

Van Straelen, Dr. V.

February 23, 1955

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Parcs Nationaux du Congo Belge
c/o IRSAC, 42, rue Montoyer
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Good luck and best wishes to you!

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

WLS:vb

INSTITUT DES PARCS NATIONAUX
DU CONGO BELGE

Brussels, February 1,
1955

Dear Mr. Schmitt:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of January 24, which crossed mine dated January 27.

On examining your new travel itinerary I must admit that this program offers better possibilities than the preceding one and that in its actual conception it is very feasible.

As far as the accommodations at Gangala-na-Bodio are concerned they are certain, as given, because there is a guest-house in connection with the Station de Domestication des Elephants.

On the route leading from Gangala to Faradje, 28 kilometers before reaching Faradje, is located Nagero, a Station of the National Park of Garamba. This reservation is not open to visitors, but a special permission might be granted to you in order that you may make a journey on the central trail. I shall await your instructions on this subject.

In answer to the question which you also asked in your second note, I wish to tell you that Aba is a little post that would not be worth your making a detour to see. In my opinion it would be better to continue to Bunia, after leaving Faradje, going by Watsa.

With my wishes for a good voyage, I beg you to believe, dear Mr. Schmitt, in the expression of my distinguished and devoted sentiments.

/s/ V. Van Straelen
President of the Institut

COPY OF TRANSLATION

Van Straelen, V.
Filed: Belgian Congo

INSTITUT DES PARCS NATIONAUX
DU CONGO BELGE

Brussels, February 1,
1955

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/s/ V. Van Straelen
President of the Institut

COPY OF TRANSLATION

ROYAUME DE BELGIQUE

INSTITUT
DES
PARCS NATIONAUX
DU CONGO BELGE

DIRECTION

BRUXELLES, le 1er février 1955
Rue Montoyer, 21
Télégr. : PARCNAT

N° 89.065
(à rappeler dans la réponse)

Tour.-Aut.vis.

Cher Monsieur Schmitt,

J'ai l'honneur d'accuser réception de votre lettre du 24 janvier, qui s'est croisée avec la mienne datée du 27 janvier.

A l'examen de votre nouvel itinéraire de voyage je dois convenir que ce programme offre de meilleures possibilités que le précédent et qu'il est très réalisable dans sa conception actuelle.

En ce qui concerne le logement à Gangala-na-Bodio, celui-ci est assuré étant donné qu'il existe un guest-house dépendant de la Station de Domestication des Eléphants.

Sur la route menant de Gangala à Faradje, à 28 kilomètres avant d'arriver à cette dernière localité, se trouve Nagero, Station du Parc National de la Garamba. Cette réserve n'est pas ouverte aux visiteurs, mais une permission spéciale pourrait vous être accordée pour y effectuer un parcours sur la piste centrale. J'attendrai, à ce sujet, de connaître vos intentions.

Répondant à la question que pose également votre note n° 2, je vous signale qu'Aba est un petit poste qui ne justifie pas que vous fassiez un détour pour vous y rendre. A mon avis il vaudrait mieux continuer sur Bunia, au départ de Faradje, en passant par Watsa.

Avec mes souhaits de bon voyage, je vous prie de croire, cher Monsieur Schmitt, en l'expression de mes sentiments distingués et dévoués.

à Monsieur Waldo L.SCHMITT
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology
Smithsonian Institution
United States National Museum
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.
==========
U.S.A.

V.VAN STRAELEN.
Président de l'Institut.

Van Straelen, V.
Filed: Belgian Congo

INSTITUT DES PARCS NATIONAUX
DU CONGO BELGE

Brussels, January 27, 1955

Dear Mr. Schmitt:

I have certainly not forgotten our last talk, and I had hoped to write to you, when your letter of December 31 arrived. I should be grateful if you would excuse me because an excess of work involved with the end of the year delayed my answering your letter by return mail.

I have carefully examined the program of your trip, and I am in complete agreement with you that it will only be able to be partly carried out in the course of such a short period.

In theory, nothing hinders the collection of little animals in the territory of the Belgian Congo. For all useful purposes I am sending you a copy of the work, "Animals Protected in the Belgian Congo," in which you will find the actual legislation in effect regarding hunting. Granted that the proposed collections may be made outside the National Parks, I do not believe it important to take steps to permit their being made in the reservation. If you judge that it will be necessary to assemble some samples of lava for Dr. Foshag, a special authorization can be granted you for this purpose. All the same it will be essential that you get in touch with the Conservateur of the Albert National Park just as soon as you arrive, in order to determine the place and the nature of your collection.

So far as the help of an assistant taxidermist is concerned, I believe it will be very difficult, if not impossible, for you to secure one. The few native ones trained for this work are all occupied.

In regard to your actual trip, we are sending you "A Guide for the Traveler in the Belgian Congo," in which you will find numerous data which can be of interest to you. Unfortunately we do not have a recent edition for you. This may be obtained, in English, from the representative of the Office of Tourisme du Congo Belge et du Ruanda-Urundi: Sabena, 422 Madison Square, New York.

The itinerary which you have sent to me appears to me to be too full for you to dream of making collections. The idea of Dr. Coustry to sojourn several days in the most interesting places appears better to me. The trip can be made by plane from Leopoldville to Stanleyville and from Stanleyville to Elizabethville. From there you can continue your trip by car to get back to the Kivu by Lake Tanganika and then continue toward the north following the itinerary that was suggested to you by the International Travel Department.

You may actually find certain difficulties in obtaining a place in the hotels, if you do not make reservations in advance. I am attaching to the documents that I am sending a notice of the Office du Tourism du Congo Belge et du Randa-Urundi, in which you will find mentioned the hotels with information concerning them. This will make it easier to make reservations.

It will certainly be interesting for you to visit the National Park of Kagera, but I fear that this will involve a detour that your already very heavy program will make difficult. Nevertheless, I should like it, if such is your intention, that you notify me in order that I may warn the Conservateur of this park, as well as those of the other perks where you wish to go, so that you may be assured, as well as your companions, of the best reception.

I believe, on the other hand, that it would be advantageous for the Smithsonian Institution to warn (advise or write) the General Government at Leopoldville, in order to underline the official character of your trip. You may bring in arms, and the permissions will be delivered to you at Leopoldville or at Matadi. I definitely suggest that you request from the General Government a scientific hunting permit which will cover you in regard to the collections that you hope to make.

If I can give you any other information, I shall be very happy to write to you and to facilitate in this way your proposed trip, which I hope will accomplish to the very best all your desires.

Please believe, dear Mr. Schmitt, in this expression of my distinguished and entirely devoted sentiments.

/s/ V. Van Straelen
President of the Institut

COPY OF TRANSLATION

Van Straelen, V.
Filed: Belgian Congo

INSTITUT DES PARCS NATIONAUX
DU CONGO BELGE

Brussels, February 1,
1955

Dear Mr. Schmitt:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of January 24, which crossed mine dated January 27.

On examining your new travel itinerary I must admit that this program offers better possibilities than the preceding one and that in its actual conception it is very feasible.

As far as the accommodations at Gangala-na-Bodio are concerned they are certain, as given, because there is a guest-house in connection with the Station de Domestication des Elephants.

On the route leading from Gangala to Faradje, 28 kilometers before reaching Faradje, is located Nagero, a Station of the National Park of Garamba. This reservation is not open to visitors, but a special permission might be granted to you in order that you may make a journey on the central trail. I shall await your instructions on this subject.

In answer to the question which you also asked in your second note, I wish to tell you that Aba is a little post that would not be worth your making a detour to see. In my opinion it would be better to continue to Bunia, after leaving Faradje, going by Watsa.

With my wishes for a good voyage, I beg you to believe, dear Mr. Schmitt, in the expression of my distinguished and devoted sentiments.

/s/ V. Van Straelen
President of the Institut

COPY OF TRANSLATION

ROYAUME DE BELGIQUE

INSTITUT
DES
PARCS NATIONAUX
DU CONGO BELGE

DIRECTION

BRUXELLES, le 27 janvier 1955
Rue Montoyer, 21
Télégr. : PARCNAT

N° .....
(à rappeler dans la réponse)

Cher Monsieur Schmitt,

Je n'ai certes pas oublié notre dernier entretien et me proposais de vous en écrire, quand votre lettre du 31 décembre m'est parvenue. Vous voudrez bien m'excuser si un surcroît de besogne de fin d'année m'a empêché d'y donner suite par retour du courrier.

J'ai examiné attentivement le programme de votre voyage et je suis complètement de votre avis que celui-ci ne sera que partiellement réalisable au cours d'une période aussi courte.

En principe, rien ne s'oppose à la récolte de petits animaux sur le territoire du Congo Belge. A toutes fins utiles je vous envoie un exemplaire de l'ouvrage "Animaux Protégés au Congo Belge", dans lequel vous trouverez la législation actuellement en vigueur sur la chasse. Etant donné que les récoltes envisagées peuvent être faites en dehors des Parcs Nationaux, je ne crois pas utile de prendre des dispositions permettant leur prélèvement dans la réserve. Si vous jugiez nécessaire de rassembler quelques échantillons de lave à l'intention du Dr FOSHAG, une autorisation spéciale vous est accordée à cet effet. Toutefois, il conviendra que vous vous mettiez en contact avec le Conservateur du Parc National Albert au moment de votre arrivée, pour déterminer le lieu et la nature de la récolte.

En ce qui concerne l'assistance d'un préparateur-taxidermiste, je crois qu'il sera très difficile , sinon impossible de vous en procurer un, les quelques indigènes formés à ce travail étant tous occupés.

à Monsieur Waldo L.SCHMITT
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology
Smithsonian Institution
United States National Museum
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.
==========
U.S.A.

.../...

.../...

Quant à votre voyage proprement dit, nous vous adressons un "Guide du Voyageur au Congo Belge", dans lequel vous trouverez de nombreux renseignements qui pourront vous intéresser. Nous n'avons malheureusement pas d'édition plus récente à notre disposition, celle-ci pouvant être obtenue, en traduction anglaise, auprès du représentant de l'Office du Tourisme du Congo Belge et du Ruanda-Urundi: Sabena, 422 Madison Square, à New-York.

L'itinéraire que vous m'avez communiqué me paraît beaucoup trop chargé pour que vous puissiez songer à effectuer des récoltes. L'idée du Dr COUSTRY de séjourner quelques jours dans les lieux les plus intéressants me paraît meilleure. Le voyage pourrait s'effectuer en avion de Léopoldville à Stanleyville et de Stanleyville à Elisabethville. De là vous pourriez poursuivre le voyage en voiture pour rejoindre le Kivu par le lac Tanganika et ensuite continuer vers le Nord suivant l'itinéraire qui vous est proposé par l'International Travel Department.

Vous pouvez, en effet, trouver certaines difficultés à vous loger dans les hôtels, si vous ne réservez pas les places d'avance. Je joins aux documents que je vous fait parvenir une notice de l'Office du Tourisme du Congo Belge et du Ruanda-Urundi dans laquelle vous trouverez mentionnés les hôtels avec les renseignements qui les concernent. Ceci pourra vous faciliter les réservations.

Il serait certainement intéressant que vous visitiez le Parc National de la Kagera mais je crains que cela ne vous entraîne à un détour que votre programme, déjà fort chargé, rendra difficile. Néanmoins j'aimerais, si telle était votre intention, que vous me préveniez afin que je puisse avertir le Conservateur de ce Parc, comme aussi ceux des autres où vous voudriez vous rendre, afin que vous soyez assuré, ainsi que vos compagnons, du meilleur accueil.

J'estime, d'autre part, qu'il serait utile que la Smithsonian Institution avertisse le Gouvernement Général, à Léopoldville, afin de souligner le caractère officiel de votre voyage. Vous pouvez introduire des armes et les permis vous seront délivrés à Léopoldville ou à Matadi. Je vous suggère toutefois de demander au Gouvernement Général un permis scientifique de chasse qui vous mettra à couvert en ce qui concerne les récoltes que vous comptez réaliser.

.../...

.../...

Si je puis vous donner d'autres renseignements, je serai très heureux de vous répondre et de faciliter ainsi le voyage que vous projetez et qui, je l'espère, s'accomplira au mieux de vos désirs.

Veuillez croire, cher Monsieur Schmitt, en l'expression de mes sentiments distingués et entièrement dévoués.

V. Van Straelen

V.VAN STRAELEN.

Président de l'Institut.

Van Straelen, V.
Filed: Belgian Congo

January 24, 1955

Dr. V. Van Straelen
Président de l'Institut des
Parcs Nationaux du Congo Belge
c/o IRSAC, 42, rue Montoyer
Bruxelles, Belgium

Dear Dr. Van Straelen:

With this I send you our itinerary as we have finally worked it out with Mr. Roger Coustry of the Belgian Embassy. He and a friend of his,who has just returned from the Congo, believe it is quite workable. I will write you more in detail and send you a smoother copy when I return on February 7 from California.

If you will note, we would like to stop in the rest or guest houses in a couple of the National Parks. About this, too, I shall write you more in detail and would do so tonight if I were not leaving in a few hours by plane. We are hoping also to get accommodations at two of the INAC stations but about those two I will write Mr. Hendrix as soon as I can.

According to present plans we shall arrive in Matadi by the Belgian African Line on April 9 or 10 and thirty-eight days later be in Bukavu.

I whall write you again in two weeks.

Sincerely yours,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

Enc.
WLS:vb

Bel. Congo file

December 31, 1954

Dr. V. Van Straelen
Président de l'Institut des
Parcs Nationaux du Congo Belge
c/o IRSAC, 42, rue Montoyer
Bruxelles, Belgium

AIR MAIL

Dear Dr. Van Straelen:

I hope you haven't forgotten me or our last lunch in my office together with Dr. Gohar from Egypt.

I have urgent need of your advice regarding a trip to your famed Belgian Congo that I shall have the opportunity of making this next April and May. As planned, we hope to see something of the country and, so far as permitted, make collections of some of its terrestrial and acquatic invertebrates, with some of the host plants and animals upon which some of them live. A photographic record, mostly on movie film, is to be kept of our travels and collecting operations. Regrettably we shall not be able to devote more than 45 days to the Belgian Congo, which rather limits our time for collecting, particularly if we expect to get any photographing done.

A good friend of mine, Mr. Bruce Bredin, of Greenville, Delaware, will sponsor the expedition and accompany it with his wife who, however, may stay with us only a few weeks. Mr. Bredin has given me the privilege of inviting two other companions, Dr. Roy L. Sexton, a Washington physician, who is also an expert amateur photographer, and Dr. George W. Wharton, Jr., Chairman of the Department of Zoology at the University of Maryland and a recognized authority on the Acarina. Dr. Wharton's chief interest is mites and especially those affecting native and economic crop plants, although he also hopes to collect related ectoparasites from small mammals, using live-traps, and bats, and birds, if taking them will be permitted. The host animals and plants are to be preserved for purposes of identification and future reference.

No specimens of the larger or game animals or birds are wanted,although Dr. Sexton hopes that we may be fortunate enough to get some good photographs or movies of some of them. He would also like to photograph native tribal dances, if he gets the chance, and one of the famed canoe races, or shooting of the rapids in large canoes; also pictures of the native fisheries, which I wish to visit for shrimp and small fish. As time permits, I shall endeavor to collect other Crustacea, crabs, amphipods, isopods, and so forth, as well as mollusks. Over in the eastern Congo, our geologist, Dr. Foshag, has asked us to get him some samples of dated lava flows, if possible.

The program sounds ambitious I must admit, and we shall be able to do only a small part of it in 45 days. Nevertheless, for us and our Museum it is the opportunity of a lifetime, even if we may be able to accomplish no more than a random sampling of the smaller representatives of fauna of that vast area. There is very little of this type of material from Africa in our collections; therefore, whatever we get will be more than welcome. We intend that a representative set of our collections, when determined, shall go to the Congo Museum in Bruxelles, and we shall be only too glad to comply with all rules and regulations if we can be permitted to collect the things in which we are interested.

In order to bring back any small animals taken in our live-traps, we would like to obtain the services of a trained assistant who can make up study-skins. I asked Dr. Chapin if he could recommend such a man to us, but he said he did not know of any as all who were qualified were employed. Do you think we might borrow or obtain the services of a research center assistant for a week at a time at Leopoldville, at Stanleyville, and at Bukavu if we paid his expenses, lodging, subsistence, and salary, if deemed proper? We have great need of an assistant of this kind for collecting and preserving animals, and skinning those whose skins we want to save. If one such assistant could get leave of absence at each of the three places mentioned for the purpose of assisting us we would be very happy indeed.

My knowledge of the Congo is most limited and I have had little to do with anything from that region since reporting on the shrimps and anomurans collected by Lang and James P. Chapin nearly 50 years ago. My report (Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., vol. 53, art. 1, p. 1-67) was published in 1926 shortly after the specimens were submitted to me for study. To get some idea of time and distances I went to the foreign travel department of the American Automobile Association to get a tentative itinerary. This is the blue covered "document" enclosed. However, the suggested Congo River trip will not be taken, as Mr. Bredin would prefer the alternative route by auto to Stanleyville. As outlined, the trip looked fairly reasonable and lead us to believe that we might be able to collect and set out traps each evening and gather them up in the early morning, collect plants and sites during the noon or luncheon hour, and stop for taking specimens at the native fisheries enroute. To gain time I planned to omit the Katanga part of the itinerary, a gain of twelve days over the listed itinerary, permitting longer stops at selected places. The AAA itinerary, which I also modified, as given on the accompanying thin sheet of paper, would still leave too little time for collecting and photographing.

I should explain here that Mr. Bredin prefers to travel by auto, although he was not adverse to flying, and expects to fly home to New York from Cairo at the end of our trip. Nevertheless it does look as though we shall have to fly from Leopoldville to Stanleyville at least, to save 12 to 18 days time here, too. Would we be missing anything important if we did this, and took several shorter excursions out of Leopoldville or Stanleyville instead, as suggested by Dr. Coustry below? He is the agricultural attache here at the Belgian Embassy who last year made an official tour of the Congo. I met him through Dr. Charles E. Kellogg of our Soil Conservation Service. Dr. Coustry said at once that if we were to attempt all that I outlined, traveling day after day by auto, it would be too strenuous; that we would get too tired after a few days of continuous auto travel even to do much of anything; and that we would find precious little time before and after each day's auto ride for collecting. I expect that you may well agree with him.

Dr. Coustry urged that we establish more bases or headquarters with a week at each, and work out from them by auto in various directions, collecting and photographing. As mentioned above, these might be (1) Leopoldville, where we would go after debarking at Matadi, (2) Stanleyville, and (3) Bukavu. The greatest saving in time could perhaps be accomplished by flying between Leopoldville and Stanleyville as suggested above. Then, to give Mrs Bredin a taste of cross-county auto travel, we should go from Stanleyville to Bukavu by way of Ponthierville, Umbi, Kasese, and Shabundi (a two or three days trip, depending on length of stops).

Devoting a week more or less to each of these three places, Leopoldville, Stanleyville, and Bukavu, would leave us two to three weeks more during which we could drive to Uvira or Usumbura for a look at Lake Tanganika and perhaps a few shrimp,if obtainable, after which we could work north through Ruanda Ruindi, to Goma, to the Parks, see their animal life, the Lakes and the volcanoes, stopping at any fisheries we might encounter enroute. It would also be of interest to visit the elephant training center at Gangala na Bodio,if there is time, and a pygmy village. Dr. Chapin advises not less than a three day halt at any National Park if we hope to get any worthwhile photographs or movies. At the end we would go to Juba to get a boat down the Nile on the 45th day (or so) after arriving at Leopoldville.

Dr. Coustry said further that the Congo is so booming with tourists and business that we would have to make definite hotel reservations in advance. This can be done, but would allow us very little freedom or flexibility. If we must conform we shall do so and make our reservations for each stop as far in advance as necessary.

Mark Evans, a radio and TV man of Washington, D. C.,recently spent about three weeks in the eastern Congo. He has highly recommended an Eric Thornton to us as a guide at least for the eastern section, for the trip from Bukavu, Usumbura, north through the Parks, and perhaps to Juba, as he knows the natives and their dialects well and is well acquainted with the county and the Parks and their animal life, and is well thought of by your Government officials. I assume that you would recommend that we engage such a man or guide, as, unfortunately, none of our party speaks French, though several of us can read it fairly well. This circumstance would almost make it necessary to hire Thornton after we leave Bukavu. With regard to the assistant, we wish to engage for skinning small mammals and for help with collecting, it is our sincere hope that this can be arranged. It should prove mutually profitable, both to us and to each of the research stations that might grant leave of absence to such an assistant to work with and for us. Naturally it would be worth our while to visit the research centers near our route or stops, especially the one at Lake Kivu, Bukavu, where Dr. Wharton has been in touch with Dr. Vercammen-Grandjean, exchanging letters about mite and tick problems. Dr. Vercammen-Grandjean also warned us that to try all the auto traveling outlined in either itinerary would require supermen. A week in Bukavu would be well spent, for during the stay there we could go afield collecting and photographing

Mr. Bredin is particularly anxious to take in the trip down the Nile on our way home. Perhaps,after seeing something of the animal life of the Congo this time, he will want to come back and see the Katanga area. I hope so.

The Smithsonian Institution, under whose auspices we shall be traveling, will ask your Government or the proper officials for the permits needed in order to use the traps and collecting gear we wish to bring with us. If we wish to shoot a few bats or small birds a shotgun would be needed. Can we buy this in Leopoldville and, if so, do we need a permit in advance to use it? Could we bring a shotgun and ammunition from the States? Do we need a permit for collecting invertebrates, fish, and plants? We expect to get the necessary medical certificates, passports and visas before leaving New York.

Fortunately we have time to correspond about these several matters before our start, which is planned for about April first. Reservations on the Belgian African Line, New York to Matadi, have been made but their sailing dates for next year have not yet been set so far as we can learn.

This contemplated Congo visit is being looked forward to with great anticipation! Any suggestions or advice that you can give would be gratefully received.

A Happy New Year to you and yours,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

Enc.

WLSchmitt:vb

August 18, 1955

Air Letter

Dr. P. H. Vercammen Grandjean
Laboratoire Medical
Provincial du Kivu
Bukavu, Congo Belge

Dear Dr. Vercammen Grandjean:

It was a pleasant surprise to receive that nice bottle of crabs that you recently sent me from Bukavu. They are indeed handsome and well preserved specimens. I wish that I might have been with you when they were collected. There are many different species in the Congo of which I got very few and so what you have sent me here is all the more welcome.

I am trying to piece together all my various notes and hope before the year is out to compile a narrative account of our expedition, something that the Smithsonian may be willing to publish in abbreviated form.

It goes without saying that I would like to revisit your fair country. We were much more comfortable in the eastern Congo than we have been here these last several weeks.

Give my kindest regards to Dr. Jardin and express to him again my appreciation for his several courtesies. I could not ask more than the kind treatment I received at his and your hands. All good wishes to you and yours.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

WLS:vb

AIR MAIL

21 February 1955

Dr. P. H. Vercammen-Grandjean
Biologiste - Laboratoire
Medical Provincial du Kivu
Bukavu, Congo Belge

Dear Dr. Vercammen-Grandjean:

Regreatably I've been engaged with many things other than our visit to the Belgian Congo, and so have not been able to write you again before this. Our trip is about organized so far as departure and arrival dates are concerned. We expect to arrive in Natudi on the ninth or tenth of April, and fly from Leopoldville to Stanleyville on the 17th. From there out we shall travel by auto to Yangambi - Buta - Niangara, with I hope two nights at Gangula-na-Bodio and the Garamba National Park; then to Faradje-Kasenyi for the fishery here, Mutwanga, Ruindi Camp south to Bukavu where by present plans we expect to arrive about May 13th to spend about 5 days, or rather 5 nights. I shall have to write you again when we know with more certainty, because I'm in another letter asking Dr. Jadin if it would be possible to find accommodations in the research station guest-house for 4 of us or whether we should go to some nearby hotel. There will be four of us, Dr. Sexton and his son for taking photographs, Dr. Edward Baker also a specialist on mites who is taking Dr. Wharton's place. Unfortunately Wharton could not come because of too heavy a teaching load this semester and too few assistants, two just recently resigned at mid year.

While in Bukavu, we hope to be able to visit Tshibati-Mulungu Farm, Luviro, and the Chapin place. After Bakavu we wish to visit the Uvira Hydrobiological Station, Usumbura, the Kagera Park, and on to Entebbe to take the plane for Juba where we must arrive in time to take the boat down the Nile on May 29. But for the poor connections between Bukavu and Juba we could spend more time at Bukavu. The plane for Entebbe, unfortunately leaves on Mondays only and so there is a whole week between Monday and Sunday when the Nile boat leaves, May 29.

The more I see and read about the Congo the more I wish we could stay longer. Did Dr. Wharton write to tell you that matters at the University of Maryland kept him from going with us? Dr. Edward Baker who takes his place, is co-author with Wharton of their "Introduction to Acarology".

I am writing much the same letter as this to Dr. Jadin, Dr. Hendrick, Dr. Marlier, and Dr. Chapin. Barring accidents, or unforseen circumstances our schedule will be as set forth above, or within a day or two of it.

I am still most grateful to you for the fine and helpful letter you wrote me, December 2. Wharton is most unhappy at the turn of events, he so much wanted to visit you. You will be hearing from me quite soon again.

All good wishes to you and yours.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt

WLS:hg

January 24, 1955

Dr. P. H. Vercammen-Grandjean
Laboratoire Medical
Province du Kivu
Bukavu, Congo Belge

Dear Dr. Grandjean:

Forgive me for not acknowledging sooner your very kind letter of December 2, 1954. I have been wanting to write you ever since its receipt but have just now found time on the eve of departing for California for a two weeks business trip. I cannot begin to tell you what a great help your letter was and, although I have written to Dr. Van Straelen, I have yet to address Mr. Hendrickx, Mr. Marlier, and others whom you suggested to me. You deserve more than these belated thanks and I will try to express my gratitude to you when I see you in Bukavu. This should be, as you will see from the enclosed itinerary which I worked out with Dr. Roger Coustry, some thirty-eight days after our landing in Matadi. We leave New York, Belgian-African Line, on March 26.

I shall write you again when I return from my present trip to California.

Sincerely yours,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

Enc.
WLS:vb

CONGO BELGE — BELGISCH CONGO

LABORATOIRE MEDICAL

Province / Provincie : K I V U.

BUKAVU, le / de 2 décembre 1954

(1) N° 332.

to Dr. Waldo L. SCHMITT,
Head Curator Dép.of Zoology,
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM,
WASHINGTON 25 D.C.

Ref. n° :
Annexe / Bijlage :
Objet / Voorwerp :

Cher Dr.Schmitt,

Je reçois à l'instant votre lettre du 23 nov.54 et je m'empresse d'y répondre.

Je vous remercie de la confiance que vous me témoignez et je puis vous assurer que je ferai tous mon possible pour ne pas vous décevoir et rendre votre séjour agréable et utile à vous-même et à vos collègues, dans notre province du Kivu.

J'ai transmis copie de la lettre du Dr.Wharton à mon chef le Dr.J.B.JADIN, Médecin-Directeur du Laboratoire Provincial du KIVU à Bukavu. Le Dr.Jadin est actuellement en congé en Belgique. Il vous fera lui aussi le meilleur accueil au Kivu et vous apportera son aide.

J'avais déjà contacté Mr.Thornton et ci-joint vous trouverez copie de ma lettre à Mr.le Dr.Wharton. Mr.Thornton est une de mes connaissances et je ne puis qu'en dire grand bien. Discret, débrouillard et sympathique, il ne peut que vous aider utilement. Si l'un des 5 voyageurs est déjà venu au Congo et connait la mentalité indigène, peut-être vous passerez vous aisément de guide. S'il n'en est pas ainsi, je pense que Mr.Thornton vous sera d'aide précieuse. Je ne sais si des chauffeurs indigènes connaissant l'anglais sont trouvables au Congo?

Personnellement, je pourrai vous apporter de l'aide dès que vous vous trouverez sur le territoire de la Province du Kivu Il faudra,bien entendu,l'accord de mon chef et de Mr.le Gouverneur de la Province.Je pense que cela est possible.

Pour les assistants - je suppose qu'il s'agit d'indigènes (natives) - je pense que vous pourrez en avoir avec l'aide du Gouvernement de la Colonie. Les Services de l'Information à Léopoldville ont des techniciens indigènes convenables et les Services d'Hygiène de la même Ville ont également des aides-infirmiers qualifiés pour la mise en peau (skinning) de vos captures.

Ici,à Bukavu,j'ai un homme qui s'y connait en "skinning" et Mr.Pirlot de l'IRSAC est équipé également pour ce genre de travail.

Mr. HENDRICKX, Directeur de l'INEAC à Malungu(près Bukavu) sera prévenu. Il est le plus à même de vous donner des renseignements sur les prédateurs acariens des plantes.

Mr. MARLIER, de l'IRSAC, station UVIRA (Lac Tanganika) est le spécialiste en hydrobiologie. A l'IRSAC, station LWIRO (près Bukavu) vous trouverez divers spécialistes dont le Dr. J.C. CHAPIN. Ce dernier n'est pas ici pour l'instant. Il est parti pour une tournée en zone équatoriale et ne reviendra,je pense,qu'au début de février. Je ne sais si vous aurez pu l'atteindre, mais de mon côté je ferai ce que je pourrai pour l'atteindre et le prévenir de votre arrivée.

Il serait bon que vous contactiez Monsieur V. VAN STRAELEN, Président de l'Institut des Parcs Nationaux du Congo Belge éventuellement via IRSAC, 42, rue Montoyer, Bruxelles. Lui seul est à même de vous apporter le plus d'aide dans vos visites au Parc Nationaux Albert et de la Kagera.

Pour ce qui concerne Elissabethville il est évident qu'une prise de contact avec la Station piscicole s'impose; le Directeur en est Monsieur Antoon DE BONT.

(1) Rappeler dans la réponse la date et le numéro — In het antwoord vermelden nummer en dagtekening.

Je fais parvenir copie de cette lettre à Mr.le Dr.Jadin qui est bien plus ancien que moi à la Colonie et pourra sans doute vous conseiller utilement au sujet des visites intéressantes et lieux de prospection favorables et accessibles.

Vous me demandez mon opinion au sujet de votre intinéraire projeté...Too ambitious ? dites-vous . J'ose espérer que vous ne serez pas trop affligé si je vous dis " hyperambitious "... Je ne vois pas comment vous pourrez boucler tout votre circuit en 45* jours, tout en accordant encore de votre temps à l'étude, la prospection et la visite d'installations et de laboratoires.

Il faudrait que vous soyez des sur-hommes pour réussir cela. D'autant plus que les routes sont très dures et que les automobiles vont terriblement souffrir. Or, 45 jours sans une seule avarie automobile est un pari que je n'aimerais pas beaucoup d'engager ici au Congo! Qui dit avarie,dit retard... L'époque "avril-mai" que vous avez choisie est idéale, la meilleure de l'année mais vous ne devez pas espérer que cela vous épargnera les ennuis de brusques changements de climat avec mauvais état des routes.

Je pense que les responsables des organisations officielles que vous toucherez pourront vous éclairer,mieux que je ne puis le faire moi-même, sur toutes ces choses et sur les avatars de route. Je ne sais pas non plus si de courtes stations nocturnes seront suffisantes pour vous permettre une prospection fructueuse. Pour ma part je ne suis guère trappeur et jusqu'à présent j'ai fait fort peu de prospection. En général les captures nous sont amenées par des chasseurs indigènes.

Concernant la zone que vous me demandez il y a la forêt entre Béni et Irumu où je n'ai jamais eu l'occasion de prospecter et où vous pourriez voir en même temps des pygmées,peut-être.

Pour les deux aides indigènes que vous souhaitez pour la photographie et la mise en peau des captures, je ne puis vous donner de renseignements concernant les émoluments,étant donné que les prix varient parfois énormément d'une ville à l'autre.

Je pense que si vous avez deux bons aides connaissant plusieurs dialectes, vous pourrez peut-être vous passer d'un guide comme Mr.Thornton, à condition que ces aides connaissent bien la langue française et vous-même également.

Je reste tout à votre disposition et dans l'attente de vos nouvelles, vous prie d'agréer, cher Dr. Schmitt, mes respectueuses salutations.

P.G.Vercammen,
Biologiste.

NB./ Ci-joint une petite carte concernant les lieux intéressants à visiter dans la Province du KIVU.

Copies pour: Dr.WHARTON
Univ.Maryland
U.S.A.

Dr.J.B.JADIN
93,rue de l'Ange,
NAMUR. Belgium.

November 23, 1954

Dr. P. H. Vercammen-Grandjean
Biologiste - Laboratoire
Medical Provincial du Kivu
Bukavu, Congo Belge

Dear Dr. Vercammen-Grandjean:

As Dr. Wharton kindly let me have a carbon of his letter of November 18 to you, I take the liberty of sending you additional details regarding our plans and asking you further questions.

The group,with which Dr. Wharton will be visiting the Belgian Congo, will consist of five people. A Mr. and Mrs. Bredin, who, with the Smithsonian Institution, are sponsoring the expedition; Dr. Wharton, who, as you know, is our leading American acarologist; Dr. Roy Lyman Sexton, a prominent Washington physician who is also an expert photographer; and myself. Dr. Sexton will make a color film record of the expedition. He hopes that he can get pictures of the larger game animals in the National Parks, of characteristic native scenes and dances, and of our collecting operations. Dr. Wharton plans to collect mites and ticks, with their plant and smaller vertebrate hosts, while I, the fifth member of the party, shall look after miscellaneous invertebrates, primarily shrimps and crabs.

All this I have already written to Dr. James C. Chapin,of Bukavu, who must be well known to you. Since Dr. Wharton wrote you last week I have been told that for our "peaceful" purposes we may not need a hunter-guide such as Mr. Thornton, however fine a man he may be. We are not interested in securing trophies nor do we intend to hunt the larger animals and birds. With the cooperation of the official local game wardens, we should have no difficulty in getting pictures of the larger animals in the parks as long as we stay with out automobile. So if you have not already approached Mr. Thornton, that action might be held in abeyance. However, as Dr. Wharton has already suggested, it might be helpful to have your confidential opinion of Thornton or of some other good hunter-guide. Do you think that we shall need one, in view of the fact that the two automobiles we hope to engage will each have an English speaking chauffer-guide.

The Smithsonian Institution, in due course, will approach your government for its sanction of the expedition, such cooperation as it may be able to render us, and for all necessary permits.

We shall have need of two assistants from Leopoldville on for the five or six weeks that we expect to be in the field: the first to help Dr. Sexton, the photographer, with his equipment, the other to be experienced in skinning small mammals, in order to assist Dr. Wharton with his trapping. We have also asked Dr. Chapin for recommendations of assistants. You are free to consult him about this matter if you wish. Do you think we can obtain properly qualified individuals who might stay with us for the period that we shall be in the Congo? Also, can you tell us what we shall need to pay them, by the month or week or for our Congo stay? As before mentioned, we expect to have the use of two automobiles, one for the party of five, the other for the two assistants and our photographic and collecting gear. It is our hope to assemble in Leopoldville about mid April and from there out, pursue the enclosed, at present tentative, itinerary, omitting, however, the side trip to Elizabethville for the sake of gaining approximately twelve days to spend enroute and in part at laboratories in Bukavu. What do you think of this itinerary? Too ambitious?

In the course of our collecting, we hope to set out live traps at overnight stopping places, taking up the traps in the early morning to examine the catches for ectoparasites and to preserve the host animals. At the luncheon stops we shall try to collect mites, their host plants, and terrestrial crustacea. Photographs and motion pictures are to be taken as we can find time.

Is there some area that you would urge us to explore for mites and ticks, other than those you have already examined or those listed in our outline of travel? We hope to reach Juba the last week of May or very early in June, in order to proceed home down the Nile, and by air from Cairo to New York. Do you, by any chance, know the sailing dates of Nile steamers from Juba near the end of May and in early June? I am told they only run every two weeks.

I hope I have not asked you too many questions. Your reply to my questions and those raised by Dr. Wharton might be sent to him direct with a carbon of your letter, if you will be so kind. I would like to have it at hand for my information. We are looking forward to this trip with great anticipation. Won't you write Dr. Wharton at your early convenience. It is most fortunate that he is acquainted with you and I shall be happy to make your acquaintance, too.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

Enclosure
CC: Dr. Wharton
W.Schmitt:vb

Labo. Medic
No. 332

LABORATOIRE MEDICAL
K I V U.

BUKAVU 30 novembre 1954.

330.

to Dr.G.W.WHARTON,
Departement Head of Zoology
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND,

Cher Dr.Wharton,

En mains votre lettre du 18 novembre.

Je suis très heureux d'apprendre votre passage prochain à Bukavu. Je ferai à cette occasion tout mon possible afin de vous aider vous-même et vos compagnons de voyage. J'ai prévenu mon chef, le Dr.JADIN, en ce moment en congé en Europe. Il sera ici lors de votre passage et, comme moi-même, heureux de vous rendre service.

Concernant Mr.E.THORNTON que je connais très bien, laissez-moi vous dire que c'est un homme très sérieux et qui pourra vous aider efficacement. Il est de souche britannique et connais l'anglais parfaitement. Il possède aussi plusieurs dialectes africains. De plus, ses connaissances en matière de psychologie indigène vous épargneront peut-être certains déboires, au cas où aucun de vos camarades de voyage n'est jamais venu en Afrique Centrale.

Au sujet des contacts préalables à établir en Afrique, voici - pour le cas où vous les ignoreriez - les organismes officiels qu'il conviendrait que vous touchiez:

1) C.S.A. - Scientific Council for Africa South of the Sahara ; Mr. Brédo, Secrétaire-Général, B.P. 5175, BUKAVU, Congo Belge

2) I.R.S.A.C. - Institut pour la Recherche Scientifique en Afrique Centrale - Mr. Jean Paul Harroy, Secrétaire du Comité de Direction, 42, Rue Montoyer, BRUXELLES.

3) I.N.E.A.C. - Institut National pour l'Etude Agronomique au Congo belge - Mr. J.Lebrun, Secrétaire Général, Rue aux Laines, BRUXELLES.

IRSAC est plutôt une institution pour la recherche zoologique; INEAC est réellement une institution de recherches botanique et phytopathologique.

J'ai touché un mot en particulier à Mr.BRASSEUR, le Gouverneur de la Province du KIVU, et vous jouirez de son appui dans la province du Kivu, dans la mesure du possible.

A vous lire plus longuement, veuillez agréer Cher Dr.Wharton, l'expression de mes sentiments dévoués.

November 18, 1954

Dr. P. H. Vercammen-Grandjean
Biologiste - Laboratoire
Medical Provincial du Kivu
Bukavu
Congo Belge

Dear Dr. Vercammen:

Recently I have been asked to join a group going to the Belgian Congo in order to make collections and obtain photographs for the Smithsonian Institution of Washington. The details of the trip have not yet been settled and I should, therefore, like to get some information about what I might be able to do during the month of May that would be helpful to me in gaining a further understanding of the distribution and ecology of mites in the tropics. I would, of course, greatly appreciate the opportunity of seeing your materials and collections as well as the other work in your laboratory. In addition I want to make some collections of the plant-feeding mites, especially those that are on plants of economic importance.

The other members of the party will be interested in other things and will want to obtain photographs of big game and collections of fresh water arthropods and fish. They are thinking in terms of hiring a guide to assist them in this work, and Eric Thornton has been recommended to them as a good man for this purpose. I should appreciate any information that you might have on him or other guides in the Belgian Congo. I should also like to know which scientific laboratories I should plan to visit in trying to accomplish as much as possible during my short stay.

Any suggestions or information that you can give me you feel might be helpful in planning such a trip would be greatly appreciated. From our previous correspondence I know that you are interested in obtaining more information on the mites. If there is anything of a specific nature that you need, I should be pleased to try to get it and bring it to you.

Sincerely yours,

G. W. Wharton
Department Head

GWW:hhm

✓cc: Dr. Waldo Schmitt
Head Curator of Zoology
U. S. National Museum
Washington 25, D. C.

Belgian Congo

Miss Helena Weiss, Chief, Correspondence and Records
Waldo L. Schmitt

August 4, 1955

Natural History Collections and collecting equipment returned from the Belgian Congo

Regrettably I did not make provision on the customs declaration when entering New York on the morning of June 26, for several pieces of African native handicraft included in the shipment which was to follow me and which was dispatched from Africa after my departure.

The carbon copy stub of my airplane ticket (No. 4641989) "Sabena" is so illegible that I cannot make out flight number or time; however, from a Sabena time table, it would appear to be the Sabena (tourist) flight, SN 547, Brussels to New York, arriving about 8:30 a.m. I was given but one copy of form 6063, and did not make a duplicate of it, or note its serial number. To the best of my recollection, I declared thereon (1) 6 small stone scarab pendants set in gold; the lot cost $27 (American) in Cairo; (2) 10 small earthenware round bottom coffee urns with cloth rings for holding them upright for 10 p.t. each, total 100 p.t. ($3.00 American) purchased in Khartoum.

I hope that I may be permitted to amend my earlier declaration to include the articles of native handicraft referred to. These are listed on an accompanying sheet Par. 1798 etc., and total, in value, 3065 Congo francs (= $61.30).

Unfortunately my copy of the list of contents of these boxes and crates has not yet arrived though it was sent surface pouch with other papers from Cairo, the end of June. I can submit an inventory of the collecting gear taken out of the U.S.A., which in part is being returned in the shipment in question and in part in the single crate to follow.

Otherwise the 9 wooden chests and 3 crated telescope cases contain the scientific results of our African expedition, natural history and geologic specimens, soil samples for biotic assay, collecting equipment and instruments, work clothes and shoes, and some books and papers picked up en route. If they were not removed by the British customs officials in Nairobi, there are also 2 Marble Game Getters in one of the crates (#3 I believe).

In one of the chests is a "Mandolin" of native manufacture (cost 450 frs, $5.00) belonging to Dr. Sexton, one of the members of the party. In his New York declaration he made allowance for this, and for other similar items in the crate yet to come from Leopoldville, by declaring an unitemized one or two hundred dollars worth of imports.

Appended also is a list of collecting equipment taken to the Congo covering the equipment brought back,--some was left behind. Another of the chests contains unexposed film taken from the States and now being returned to the Museum. Four copper tanks contain natural history specimens in an alcohol-formalin mixture.

I hope this somewhat lengthy memorandum furnishes you enough information to meet the points raised in the forms I have endeavored to complete for "customs."

WLSchmitt:rmr

Filed: Belgian Congo
(Contents of air shipment)

Contents of 4 crated black fiber telescope cases addressed to:

American Consulate General
Leopoldville, Belgian Congo
(WLS)

Crate No. 1:

2 cameras: 1 Sexton, 1 Keystone 16 mm.
12 rolls Polaroid film
40 " 16 mm. movie Kodachrome
7 " " type A
20 " Px 120
20 " E 120
12 Px Film Packs, 4x5
4 Ektachrome Film Packs, 4x5
2 pocket notebooks
2 rolls plastic bottles, 8 oz.
2 pkg. Elkosin tablets
2 Museum towels

Crate No. 2:

1 Ciné Special Kodak
1 Tapack recorder
2 boxes sound tape
10 rolls E120 film
10 " K 135 film
3 " Px 120 film
7 Px Film Packs, 4x5
1 Heiland strob light
2 boxes Polaroid Varnish
1 carton medicines, containing:
10 bottles Serpasil, 25 tablets (.25 mg.)
46 sample pkgs. Doriden
32 pkgs. 6 tabs each Pyribenzamine
2 doz. 1/4 oz. tubes Nupercainal ointment
2 doz. 1/4 oz. tubes Pyribenzamine cream
18 bottles Vioform tablets, 20 each

Crate No. 3:

3 1-lb. bottles formalin, in carton in corner next microscope
1 compound microscope
1 carton, 1 gross, plastic vials
1 lb. Silicone putty
1 box marking pencils, 5-6 colors.
1 box assorted nails
6 Aersol bombs
6 copies "Acarology," by Baker and Wharton
~~xxxxxxxxxxx~~
1 box tools, file, 2 pliers
1 pr. shoes; 2 pr. white socks

Box No. 3. Contd.

1 carton miscellaneous items:
- 1 qt. bottle with labels
- 1/4 lb. rubber bands
- 2 202 cans marking ink
- 1 injecting syringe, 2 needles
- 3 pr. forceps
- 4 pencils
- 6 lbs. plastic tubing (3 lbs. 8 in.; 3 lbs. 12 in.)
- 2 balls cord
- 1 box cleaning tissues
- 6 bottles seat
- 1 towel
- 2 pr. earrings

12 yds. cheesecloth

Crate No. 4:

1 fiber case containing skinning tools and supplies for mammals; also a few Smithsonian Institution publications and pictures; 1 tow net.

1 small metal hammer
1 lb. Pyrethrum powder
1 pr. leather work shoes and pair of socks
20 yds. cheesecloth
2 Marble game-getters and holsters
1/4 lb. Silicone putty
1 game bag; and some cloth bags
1 box dissecting instruments
1 collecting box; 2 1-qt. jars; 1 brass tube for bottom samples.
1 pkg. plastic bags
1 roll toilet paper

Est. value $1,100.00

Filed: Belgian Congo
(Contents of freight shipment)

204143

March 7, 1955

American Consul
Matadi, Belgian Congo
For Smithsonian-Bredin Expedition
Leopoldville, Belgian Congo
c/o Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt

Express, N.Y.
Ocean freight on

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt

//////// Dept. of Zoology

11 wooden boxes

7 Collecting outfit

Collecting outfit, according to attached list, contained in 11 chests.

Collecting OUTFIT FOR SMITHSONIAN-BREDIN EXPEDITION

Box No. 1. (box 40 previously placed on box) Long chest.

24 tin funnels

1 collapsable gate

1 sweeping net (canvas)

1 collapsable table, wooden

1 photo enamel tray

1 rack, metal

2 long handled brushes

2 mailing tubes containing paradichlorobenzene

1 headlite lantern

5 dry cell batteries

6 hinged legs, 9 in. tall, for gate

1 loose ball twine

21 5 inch circles of wire plates of 1/4 in. mesh

500 corks for shell vials

500 procain vials for preserving specimens

3 large plastic bags

8 sets turkey bags, plastic

13 black cloth shields

1 extension cord

1 " with 5 double plug in sockets

10 sets of wiring, 69 set

40 2 inch battery clamps

19 large plastic vials

3 small cyanide collecting jars

1 gross pill boxes

1 roll Scotch electric tape

Long Chest No. 1:

2 aspirators (glass tubes and rubber corks plus 2 extra tubes) and rubber tubing about 3 feet.

2 sets dental probes

1 handle for probes

25 Schuyler (small) rat traps

40 snap traps

1 20 ft. seine

30 small canvas bags

Long chest No. 2:

2 photo tripods

3 dip net handles, 30 in. approximately

2 " " " rings

1 pry bar

1 cold chisel

1 geology hammer

1 plywood table case

2 enamel ware pans

3 copper seives

1-1/2 dox. adhesive tape 5 yd. rolls, 1/2 inch width

1 minnow net

4 tow nets

1 small box containing 3 vials and corks, townet bags and metal sleeve

1 gross plastic vials

2 enamel ware buckets

6 K.Z.Seal qt. jars, 5 empty, 1 containing labels

1 gross plastic vials

8 cloth towels

Long chest No. 2:

1 pair old black leather shoes

6 35 mm. 36 exposure kodachrome roll films.

4 rolls toilet paper

40 to 50 muslin bags, 8 x 11-1/2 inches, approximately

3 lbs. 8 inch wide plastic tubing

3 " 12 inch wide plastic tubing

Approx. 10 to 20 yds cheese cloth

1 ball cord

1 " wrapping twine

Box No. 3:

2 plant presses, straps, with corrugated paper, newsprint paper and corrugated metal.

1 box cutrate wax paper

2 boxes Coleman lantern mantles

4 cartons (1 gross each) shell vials

Box No. 4 (16 gal. chest):

1 Coleman lantern

30 carton scotch tape for tapak recorder

40 film packs 4 x 5, Plus X

6 " " " Ektachrome

36 rolls 3-1/4 x 4-1/4 polaroid film

2 cartons 50 rolls each of 16 mm. K 135, movie film

12 35 mm. daylight No. 365

36 muslin bags, 8 x 11-1/2 inches, approximately

Box No. 5 (16 gal. chest):

1 Camera case, containing: 1 changing bag, 1 tripod head, 4 packs polaroid film 3-1/4 x 4-1/4, 1 box photo filters, 3 packs 25 rolls each of PX 120, "plus x"

1 Carton No. 365 (16 mm.), 50 rolls kodachrome movie film

1 partial carton of 38 rolls of 16 mm. kodachrome movie film

1 " " 42 " , Type A kodachrome movie film

1 to 2 doz. muslin bags, 8 x 11-1/2, approximately

2 rolls filter paper (4 inch)

Box No. 6 (small collecting chest):

14 1 lb. bottles formaldehyde

2 gross plastic vials, 10 dram

6 bottles Higgins Eternal ink

6 1 qt. Atlas E-Z Seal jars, 5 empty, 1 with labels

3 pair forceps, 10 inch

Box No. 7 (small collecting chest of trinkets):

13 jars jelly beans net 18-1/2 oz.

3 " "suckers"

24 cans (11 oz.) fruit drops

12 plastic necklaces

6 pairs ear-rings

5 packages plastic autos

5 " " " and planes

20 plain mirrors, 2-1/4 x 3-1/2 inches approximately

3 toy autos, metal

10 pr. small scissors

1 Pocket tape measure

1-Flashlight
9-Extra batteries
8- pencils
5- pocket note books

Box No. 8 (small chest)

with 8 gallon tank filled with preservative

Box No. 9 (small chest)

with 8 gallon tank filled with preservative

Box No.10 (small chest)

with 8 gallon tank filled with preservative

Box No.11 (small chest)

with 8 gallon tank filled with preservative

June 10/55
"Boating" down the Nil

Dear Helena, The lower reaches of the river a truly the Egypt of song, story and the Bible, and little unchanged at that. Its summer time here and you won't believe it any more than we can that we are enjoying life and the river breezes at 100°F in our cabins! The humidity must be low, because nobody is suffering and there's no noticeable or appreciable perspiration You get a little damp but you don't stick to the writing paper. If you ever want a good long and interesting rest take a steamer down the Nile, and if you want it a bit cooler than we are having it come after mid-October through January. Yes I would like to come again. We got our shipment off from Kampala about ~~from~~ to Mombas or as soon as there was a train so. I could not wait to have it weighed before we left town, but the Overseas

Touring Co. which is making
shipments to the coast is sup-
pose to write you weights
their address is P.O. Box 167,
Kampala, Uganda. Hope
they do their part promptly
I feel certain we are under
1400 lbs even though one
chest is full of rocks and
other filled with soil samples.
~~It's been a grand trip and~~
if our pictures turn out half
as well as we hope we've
got a few eye-openers for
the folks back home. All's
well that ends well and
here's to a good ending.
See about 27 or 29 June,
Goodluck, Sincerely Schmitt.

Dear Gerard, So you are back in New York, though generally cooler than Washington, I hope you have air conditioning. The States can get hot summers. Here in the Sudan, — we are literally floating down the Nile because the str. with its 6 barges seems to go scarcely faster than the current — the temperatures are running between a low of 78° and a high of 90°–94° without being

Kaka, A.E. Sudan
June 3, 1955

— the temperatures are running between a low of 78° and a high of 90°–94° without being really uncomfortable. True we are not wearing much, but between the breeze created by the motion of the boat, the fans in the rooms, including the W.C., and the never failing evening wind from off the land, some of us are reaching for a light blanket for before the 6 a.m. cup of tea. For rest, reflection, and writing up of notes (I can't find time to include many letters) there's nothing like a trip down the Nile, — wish we might make it together sometime. — We had a grand time in the Congo and saw most everything of interest along our route — but nary a lion the whole time, though we roamed (by auto) restricted parks with special dispensation and the respective directors assistance. It's been a rewarding trip and

and I'd like to do it again except for my snake bite in the index finger of my left hand. The worst is over except for a lingering infection in the last joint where I cut it with a razor blade to promote bleeding (the snake was small, and got away in the excitement!) I'll be seeing you in New York if only a minute or two. I should be passing through bet. June 26 and the end of the month can't tell quite yet. Want to tell you about psychological study that I think ought to be made of the natives on this continent by a trained and qualified group. The world knows little or nothing of the workings of the black man's mind. If it did we would have the trouble in Kenya or that that's coming one of these days in the Congo.

As always my best to you and then some Waldo

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM
Washington 25, D. C., U. S. A.

May 11, 1955

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt
c/o Louis van den Berghe
Director IRSAC
Lwiro (Katana)
D.S. Bukavu, Belgian Congo

Dear Dr. Schmitt:

I am truly sorry that I have been so long in replying to your several communications to me. It has been most interesting to follow your progress along and I have sympathized with you in the many difficulties and nusiances you have encountered. I guess no matter how carefully one plans or tries to anticipate problems, they will crop up. However, I hope by this time everything is going smoothly and your good results in collecting, photographing and varied experiences will more than make up for all the troubles.

As you know by this time, Lucile has more than amply taken care of your questions and requests in regard to exposed film, permits, etc. I might add that I have obligated an estimated allotment to cover the return of your collecting materials as well as specimens you may send. We plan to cover all shipping costs and I hope to be able to clear everything with little difficulty. We may have a customs duty on the items in your first shipment of Mr. Bredin's things, but it should not amount to much so you can pay it from your funds. It was most unfortunate that the air shipment arrived collect and you had to pay it immediately. You must be aware of our good intentions for it was sent on a Government bill of lading with our understanding charges would be referred back to us. I called the Belgian Line immediately on hearing about the mix up and they very readily agreed to try to have the charge referred back but it was too late.

That reminds me to tell you again in case you have not received Dr. Carmichael's letter, the amount left in your fund after reimbursement of Dr. Sexton for the air shipment was $4,569.65. Dr. C. wrote you on April 26 giving this information so I am sure it has reached you by this time.

Lucile probably told you that I was away for two weeks and she had a real work out. I thought it would be a good idea to go while we could take advantage of Ginny's good services. They both kept things in such fine shape that I am tempted to go again! There has been plenty of work, with the end of the fiscal year looming up, but with everyone working like busy little bees we are keeping abreast very well. We are certainly grateful for Ginny's help--you don't know what a difference it makes to have the assistance of one extra person. She has done a good job.

Please tell Ed Baker that we shall see that his precious little mites are taken care of promptly and turned over to Paul Oman. I'm so glad he is having such good luck. We are also anxious to have a preview of Dr. Sexton's pictures. I know they will be good.

As I close, let me assure you again that I have no hard feelings whatsoever so far as our arguments and difficulties when you were leaving. Whatever I did was in line of duty and meant with the best of intentions to be helpful to you, and I am sure you felt the same way. I hope this reaches you as addressed but if not perhaps it will catch up with you along the way. My best wishes to you and the rest of the party,

Sincerely yours,

Helena

Helena M. Weiss,

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
U. S. A.

WASHINGTON 25 D.C. MAY 11 1955 P.M.

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PAR AVION

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt
c/o Louis van den Berghe
Director IRSAC
Lwiro (Katana)
D.S. Bukavu, Belgian Congo.

MESSAGE MUST APPEAR ON INNER SIDE ONLY
NO TAPE OR STICKER MAY BE ATTACHED

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED, THIS LETTER
WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL

FIRST FOLD

SECOND FOLD

EUROPE

Stanleyville, Belgian Congo
April 20, 1955

Dear Helena, I have little time for newsy letters as much as I'd like to take time out to write you one, but I have hand to write so many down here back and forth regarding our outfit that I've almost got writers cramp. (This note looks like it, doesn't it). I've just learned from Mr. Thornton-Dailly who arranged the African part of our trip that when we end up in Kampala (Entebbe last stop before Egypt) we can send our stuff (in the chests) to Mombassa where a freighter prob. English will pick it up for New York. Can the Museum with this much notice undertake the ocean-freight from Mombassa back home? You mentioned a possible difficulty because I was coming home late in the fiscal year, but the end of the year is ~~about~~ better than two months off. We've just gotten into the 4th quarter. If possible please try to persuade the powers that be to allow you at least enough for

The return of let us say 1400 lbs, not over. I will have exact figure when I reach Kampala on May 27th or 28th ~~and~~ ~~can~~ Air mail you for there would reach you in three days at most. I shall prepay from Kampala to Mombassa by rail and hope you and the Museum can take over the ocean freight going home as you did going out. Beside the air shipment out took a bigger bite than I expected. I've had to ask Carmichael to deposit $643.36 to Dr Sextus's account as the Consul did not want my traveller's checks. He wanted something drawn on the Treas. of U.S. and my little wealth is in building assoc's.

Perhaps I should have addressed this to Dr. Kellogg as Director but you are the shipping boss. You might have Ginny type out the essential & pertinent parts, under an addressing of Dr. Kellogg and ask him to consider it as having come from me direct to him. I'm [illegible] W. S. L.

Hope you accomplish the over-time. We are all healthy as can be. Gustheim

Weiss, Helena
Filed: Belgian Congo

Miss Weiss

Feb. 25, 1955

Waldo L. Schmitt

Renewal of passport

Here is my passport. I would like to have its coverage extended to include the Belgian Congo, Uganda, Tanganika Territory, the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan (the visas for this, I am told, are only to be obtained in London or Leopoldville), and Egypt.

On the way to the Congo I shall briefly visit England (London), France, Belgium, Holland, and Denmark. While over there I shall go to Stockholm, Sweden to visit carcinologists. This two day side trip will be on my own while abroad.

On the way home the plane stops in Greece and Italy but I doubt if we need anything on the passport regarding these countries as I shall be in transit only.

Wharton, Dr. George

January 30, 1956

Dr. George Wharton, Chairman
Department of Zoology
University of Maryland
College Park, Md.

Dear George:

I know you are busy, so are we all, but can you give me some word about that letter that I got from Dr. Van Straelen, of which I sent you a copy, asking about the working up of Acarina taken in the several National Parks in the Belgian Congo? Van Straelen is quite business-like, and I will need to make him some answer in the very near future.

Just to save you grubbing through your files, I am enclosing another copy of his letter. Don't fuss. Drop me a note or a post card. How about coming for lunch, but I know that is out of the question as occupied as you are.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLSchmitt:eek

Dr. George W. Wharton, Jr.
Chm. Dept. Zoology
University of Maryland
College Park.

(1)

Dear Dr. Wharton,

The Smithsonian Institution has in contemplation a brief reconnaisance of the invertebrate terrestrial and aquatic life of the Belgian Congo under the auspices of the Smithsonian-Bredin Exploration Fund recently established by Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Bredin of Greenville, Delaware. The lower forms of insect life are on this occassion our especial interest. ~~[illegible] and you are~~ along with the crustacean life of the region. The latter will be sought and studied after by Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt, our Curator of Zoology who will be our representative on this expedition. A well photographic record of field observations and operations is to be kept by Dr. Roy Lyman Sexton of Washington who will also be in charge of the photographic work for the Smithsonian.

You are known to us as one of the foremost authorities on the Acarina which ~~have to this [illegible]~~ are a relatively little known group o

so far as Africa is concerned and indeed the greater part of organisms, ~~which only in recent~~ the of which scientific and economic importance has only been recognized of ~~a~~ recent years.

~~For~~ These reasons we would like very much to have you as a member of a party of five which we plan to despatch to the Congo in April of 1955 returning in the latter part of the month following ~~March~~. The expedition plans to be ~~actually~~ in the field for five or six weeks at most. It is our hope that the University ~~will participate to the~~ authorities will consent to your participation in the actual field work for as much of ~~this~~ period as your current ~~res~~ responsibilites may permit.

Will you not bring this ~~matter~~ invitation to the attention of your President and assure him of our great desire and indeed need of your services. To ~~save time we sha~~ minimize the time that ~~they~~

~~be lost~~ ~~under~~ you will be absent from the University, we are prepared to fly you to ~~Africa~~ the Belgian Congo and return you by the same means by way of Paris, London, and Brussels where we understand it would be advantageous to the objectives of the expedition, and to your ~~acado~~ acaro logical studies to consult with European leaders in this field, ~~of studies~~ and to become acquainted with the scientific collections in their ~~care~~ custody.

~~The~~ We hope that President ~~to this invitation~~ in the affirmative response will be ~~favorable~~ ~~and~~ E

For you are the zoologist whose ~~special~~ qualifications ~~are the~~ best fit in with the plans we ~~have in mind~~ are making for this expedition.

~~Sincerely~~
Cordially yours

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

October 5, 1956

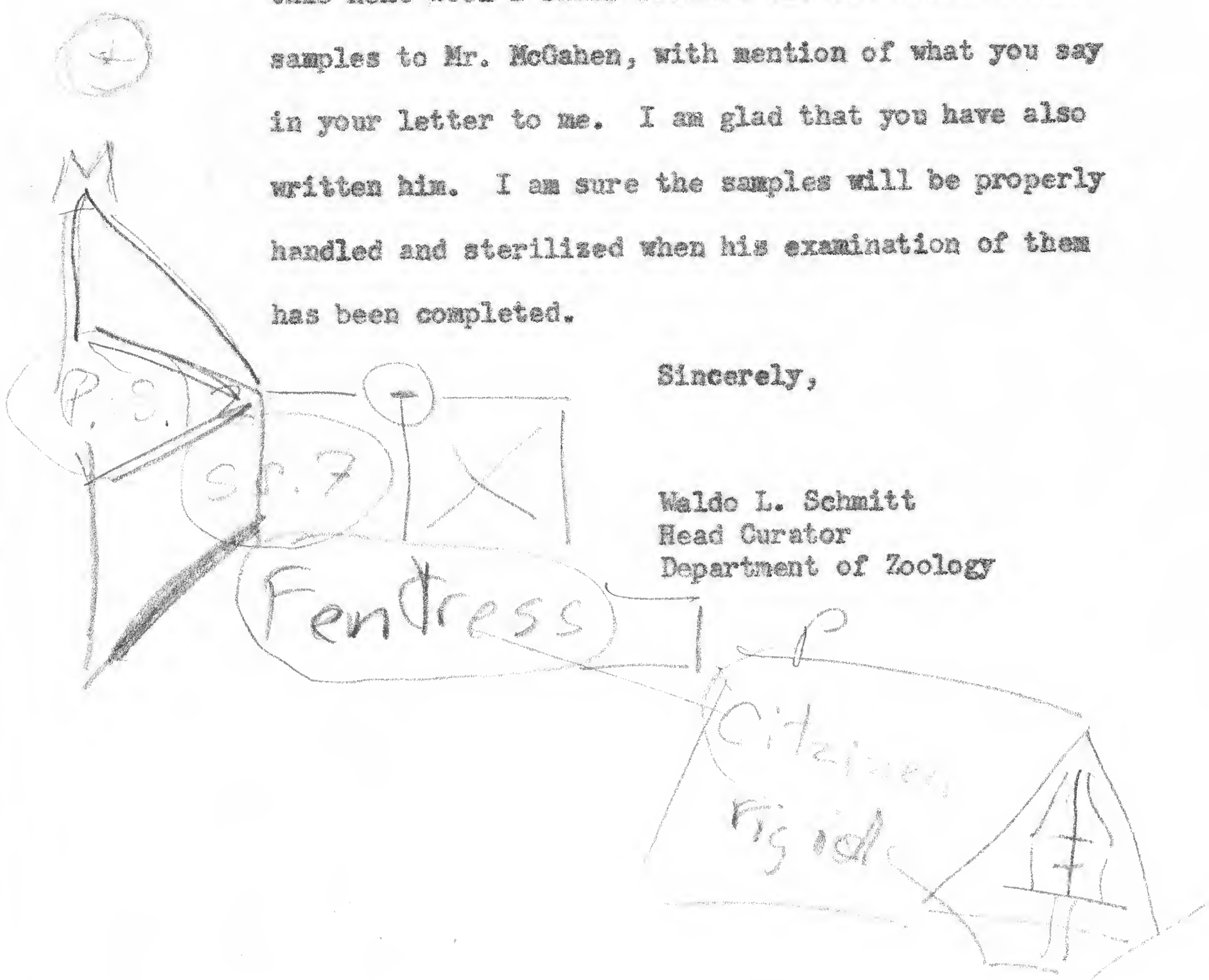
Dr. W. H. Wheeler, Head
Nursery Stock Section, Plant Quarantine Branch
Agricultural Research Service
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Room 201, 12th St.
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dr. Wheeler:

Thank you for your letter of October 3. During this next week I shall forward the two boxes of soil samples to Mr. McGahen, with mention of what you say in your letter to me. I am glad that you have also written him. I am sure the samples will be properly handled and sterilized when his examination of them has been completed.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology



Wheeler, Dr. W. H.

September 26, 1956

Dr. W. H. Wheeler, Head
Nursery Stock Section
Plant Quarantine Branch
Agricultural Research Service
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Room 201, 12th St.
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dr. Wheeler:

Early in May I returned from the West Indies with 38 samples put up in the same fashion as those I brought back from the Congo, in stout muslin bags enclosed in plastic ones. These I would like to send to the du Pont folks, as before. Is it necessary to obtain further clearance from the du Ponts? If that is the case, you may prefer to do so over your own signature. The samples are here in the ~~Zoo~~ Museum in the boxes in which they were packed at St. Croix. They haven't been opened and can be delivered to you if you wish them brought to your office.

I enclose Mr. J. W. McGahen's letter of September 18 to me for your information. As you will see, he has taken Dr. Dale E. Wolf's place. A list of the samples is attached to this letter.

Whenever you give me the word, I will either bring the samples to you or forward them to Mr. McGahen.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Encl.
WLS:eek

C O P Y

E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company
Incorporated
Stine Laboratory
Newark, Delaware

Cresselli Chemicals Department

September 18, 1956

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology
Smithsonian Institution
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dr. Schmitt:

Since your last contact with Dr. Wolf early this year, he has changed positions and your letter of August 8, along with your other correspondence, has been referred to me since I am directly involved with soil screening. We are in a positionto handle the soil samples and will be glad to receive them.

As with the African soil samples, the du Pont Company will be happy to test and accept these new soils with the understanding that the Smithsonian Institution and all other interested parties waive all rights with respect to the samples and any useful products which may result from them. As you indicated in your letter, such an arrangement appears once more to be a satisfactory basis on which to proceed.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

/s/ J. W. McGahen
J. W. McGahan
Animal Medicine Section

JWMcG:vp

Wheeler, Dr. Willis W.

Re biotic assay Filed: Belgian Congo

November 29, 1955

Dr. Willis H. Wheeler
Agricultural Research Service
U. S. Department of Agriculture
224 12th Street, S. W.
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dr. Wheeler:

I hope you haven't forgotten me and the Congo soil samples which you have held for me all these months. The Nepera Chemical Company to whom I first offered them and, indeed, for whom it was suggested I collect them, has found it impractical to undertake their examination. But there was considerable delay before I received their declination.

Recently the sponsor of our expedition approached the Du Ponts, with which he has some business relations, and I have just heard that their Mr. A. S. Bjornson, Development Department, E. I. Du Pont De Nemours & Company, Wilmington, Delaware, will screen the samples provided "no strings" are attached. I find this is the rule with all such samples, Nepera, Merck (via Nepera) and now Du Pont. Be as it may, the first thing is to have the samples examined for what they may contain before they become valueless from all points of view.

Therefore, will you not kindly write Mr. Bjornson to ascertain if they can comply with your regulations, and if so, let me know when I might ship them to him. A carbon of my letter to him is enclosed, together with a list of the samples. A copy of this list accompanied my letter to Mr. Bjornson.

Thank you for your kindness, patience, and assistance in this matter,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Encs.

Whelen, Col. Bunson

In reply refer to:
K3023-I

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

December 7, 1954

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt
U. S. National Museum
Smithsonian Institution
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Dr. Schmitt:

Mr. Tolson is away so I am replying for him to your recent letter asking some assistance for Colonel Whelen. We have gone through our picture files and are sending him a number of shots, some of which we hope will be useful for his trailways article.

We are happy to be of service to him and to you.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert Evison

Herbert Evison
Chief of Information

In reply refer to:
K3023-I

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

December 7, 1954

Col. Townsend Whelen, Ret.
3231 Garfield Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

My dear Colonel Whelen:

We learn from Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt, U. S. National Museum, that you are seeking photographs to illustrate an article on the Pacific trailways.

Our selection of photos showing trail use is limited, but we are glad to loan you such as we have. Under separate cover we are mailing you photos of the national parks in California, Oregon and Washington, some of which show sections of the Pacific Crest Trailway. You are welcome to the free use of any of these, but we will appreciate your returning them as soon as they have served their purpose.

You are possibly in touch with Clinton C. Clarke, Hotel Green, Pasadena, California; Newton B. Drury, State Division of Beaches and Parks, Sacramento, California; Oregon State Parks Department, Room 301, Highway Commission Building, Salem, Oregon; State Parks and Recreation Commission, 100 Dexter Avenue, Seattle 9, Washington. In addition, you may get helpful information and photos from the Regional Office, U. S. Forest Service, Sansome Street, San Francisco, California.

We wish you success in the preparation of an interesting article.

Sincerely yours,

SIGNED

Herbert Evison
Chief of Information

Copy to: Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt

I
INFORMATION
Photographs

December 3, 1954

Col. Townsend Whelen, U.S.A. (Ret.)
3231 Garfield Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Col. Whelen:

At the request of Dr. Schmidt of the United States National Museum we are sending you a selection of photographs of activities on some of the western national forest mountain trails.

We are not certain that these are the type picture you have in mind to illustrate your article. If they are not please let us know just the type of picture you would like and we will be very happy to try to get together another group of photos more nearly meeting your needs.

There is no charge for these pictures for the type use you propose. However, we will appreciate your returning any not suitable for your use.

Please do not hesitate to call on us if we can help you further on this or any subjects relating to forestry or conservation in general.

Sincerely yours,

Leland J. Prater

LELAND J. PRATER
Div. of Information & Education
Photo Unit

Enclosures: 385264, 475235, 385262, 437622, 470131, 470139, 402256, 409197.
cc - Dr. Waldo Schmidt, SmithsonianInstitute
LJP/LJP

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Dr. Schmidt **DATE:** July 29, 1955

FROM : A. W. Wilding AWW

SUBJECT: Bredin Expedition Film

The following is the information you asked me to furnish:

COLOR

16 mm (100 ft. to roll)

Daylight	150 rolls
Artificial light	50 rolls

Total 16 mm color ..... 200 rolls

35 mm (36 exp. per roll)

Daylight	67 rolls
Artificial light	33 rolls

Total 35 mm color ..... 100 rolls

2-1/4 x 2-1/4 Ektachrome (Rolleiflex) ..... 25 rolls

4 x 5 Ektachrome (10 sheets to box) ..... 10 boxes

BLACK AND WHITE

4 x 5 Plus-X ..... 60 packs

#120 Plus-X ..... 100 rolls

Polaroid (8 exp.) ..... 60 rolls

Stanleyville
Belgian Congo
Apr. 20/55

①

Dear Mr. Williams, You may recall that package of "wash n dry" that you sent me about a year ago. I could get the date of my acknowledgement at the office; maybe you can locate the letter. At any rate each little packet is just as good and efficient today as when it was put up. I only had occassion to use a few, and the rest just waited their turn. It came yesterday way down here in the Belgian Congo. We have a long auto ~~trip~~ tour some 50 days ahead of us, and as I believe you mentioned or I, they would be ideal on auto trips as well as in an office.

To cut a long story short, we are in the Sabena Guest House (adjacent to the air port) in Stanleyville, a sort of a motel with small houses (rooms + bath) in rows of 6 or 8, with a central dining room, bar and lounge. Yesterday their water fail, broken main or something. Anyway we had been out

in a basket net making repairs. It seem recent high water had damaged "apparatus" in various ways.

collecting all forenoon in the tropic sun (midday it gets up in the 90s without difficulty) and came back to lunch thereings no wash-water or shower, not a drop of water "within a mile" I'd like to say. Any way I had the rest of the wash'n'drys you gave me and dug them out of my grip. I can't begin to tell you how wonderfully refreshing, and cleansing they were. All four members of our party were enthused, and our chauffer-guide of Swedish birth I believe who had come to the table "unwashed" as we might have been but for you felt likewise after using a packet right at the table, first face then hands. Before using you hardly felt as though you could pick up a piece of bread you felt so dirty having literally been grubbing "dirt" gathering your specimen down by a local native river fishery. Afterwards you felt ready for anything and clean enough to handle food. Well, the guide remarked in America you have everything, you think of every thing. These things should go

well in there in Africa, with long stretches of dirt and dusty roads, with often no place to stop and wash before lunch (or before eating on the road) — the water in the open and in most towns is not safe and we have to drink either mineral, or chemically treated water (iodine pills are best). — therefore your packets will fill a great need (and the tourist trade is increasing by the day, so to speak). Our guide an intelligent man a missimary who is doing this on the side was so interested as was I myself that I said how would you like to become agent for this article. He liked the idea he travels a great deal knows the country and is in a position to contact (dealers) storekeepers in major town (and minor) all through the Congo & perhaps other parts of Africa. If you think it worth you while send him a sample package as you did me and your proposition if your moved to make/any

— Inter Post Office Box — Boite Postal

(4)

He is, Oscar Lagerstroem
B.P. 266
Bukavu, Congo Belge.

Just by handing out a few here and there he might be able to create a demand for them here abouts. I do not know to what extent he could buy samples but I feel a few free samples might get him started pushing sales over here unless transportation costs would eat up profits. But those who travel by auto a great deal out here and about everywhere body does, and tourists can afford to buy this convenience. There is a Belgian Information Center in N.Y. who can tell you about customs; but commerical free samples I believe go anywhere.

Give Mr. Lagerstroem a try.

My best to you and repeated thanks for that long-little-used sample of yester year.

Sincerely Waldo L. Schmitt
U.S. National Museum

The day I spoke of it I wished I had a shower over the entire current body of soap

Perhaps a larger size bar would be nice please

Williams, R. R.

R. R. WILLIAMS INC. 54 WEST 21st STREET, NEW YORK 10, N. Y. ALGONQUIN 5-4425

W.L.S. JUL 30 1954

July 29, 1954

Dear Dr. Schmitt:

It was very kind of you to write me on July 25th, concerning "Wash 'n Dri". I am delighted that you like it so well and I greatly appreciate your excellent suggestions.

Thank you also for sending the sample of insect repellent which arrived this morning. We will do some experimental work with it and I will let you know the results.

I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you again, when I am next in Washington.

Sincerely yours,

R. R. WILLIAMS INC.

Ross R. Williams

RRW/mz

cc: Capt Miles Duval

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt
Smithsonian Institution
United States National Museum
Washington 25, D. C.

July 25, 1954

Mr. R. R. Williams
54 W. 21st St.
New York 10, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Williams:

The last time I was at the Club I had a very pleasant hour with Captain DuVal. In the course of it he presented me with a sample of your "Wash-'n-Dri." I think it is a very wonderful discovery and just the thing a busy executive would appreciate having at hand as much as any auto driver, especially in hot, sticky weather. Between callers there isn't always time to run and wash up and your little tissue would seem to fit in most beautifully on occasions of that sort.

The idea also occurred to us that a similar thing containing a mosquito or insect repellent would be just as useful and as valuable to travellers. Under separate cover I am sending you a bottle of insect repellent left with me some years ago by a Navy man. I have never had it open and do not even know what it smells like, but it is just an idea of something that might be adapted to a different form of "Wash-'n-Dri."

A Mr. Bond, who was with us at the time, thought that, like cigarets and matches, these little packets could be dispensed from machines. This may be worth considering.

I wish you luck with your product. It strikes me as better than anything of the sort that I have yet seen.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:LMc

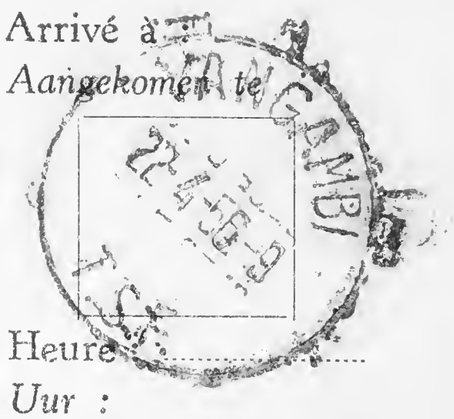
CONGO BELGE — *BELGISCH-KONGO*

SERVICE DES TÉLÉCOMMUNICATIONS

DIENST DER TELEVERBINDINGEN

NUMÉRO *Nummer*	ORIGINE *Oorsprong*	MOTS *Woorden*	DATE *Datum*	HEURE *Uur*	VIA *Via*
20I	Bukavu/TF de Likwiro	3I/3	I 2I	II50	

Arrivé à : *Aangekomen te*



Heure : *Uur :*

Indications de service taxées
Betaalde dienstaanwijzigingen

P

TÉLÉGRAMME
Telegram

CTF 7è Kt =

Directeur Ineac Yangambi

Explication des abréviations admises pour les indications de service taxées
Verklaring van de afkortingen toegelaten voor de betaalde dienstaanwijzigingen :

RP = Réponse payée. *Antwoord betaald.*
LT = Télégramme lettre. *Brieftelegram.*
CR = Accusé de récep. *Kennisgeving van ontvangst.*
TC = Collationnement. *Te collationneren.*

La Colonie n'est soumise à aucune responsabilité en raison de la correspondance privée par voie télégraphique.
De Kolonie is niet verantwoordelijk wat betreft de private correspondentie langs telegrafische weg.
(Ordonnance législative nº 254/Téléc. du 23 août 1940.)
(Wetgevende ordonnantie nr. 254/Telev. van 23 Augustus 1940.)

I8392I veuillez prevenir Professeur Schmitt Sanithsonia Taxideroiste Kitwa arrivera par avion Stan 23 avril et attendra pour joindre expedition au bureau Territoire lundi 25 =

6 oclock

Directeur Irsac

Put out traps in evening (or afternoon)
Pick up traps in early morning
Skin animals if possible
Leave by 8 oclock.

PHYTO

GAMBI
4-56-H
S.F.

Yost, Robt. L.

American Consulate General,
Leopoldville, Belgian Congo,
October 2, 1955.

Mr Ripley send with Smithsonian stuff 10/17/55

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Dr. Schmitt:

Needless to say, June and I are delighted to do what we can in the way of finding some native art work for your wife. We have been down to the native sidewalk market a couple of times, but so far without any success. I think I know what you want and I'm sure that it will be there again one of these times, so don't want to settle for anything second-rate in the meantime.

We will have no difficulty in finding room and weight for the ivory figurines, so could bring them with us when we come to Washington on our way to California, that is, in the first days of November. The ebony head and the faces might be a bit heavy for air luggage, so we may have to ship them parcel post as you suggest. That is unless you would be willing to wait for them until some time in January--then we would simply pack them with our household effects which will presumably be shipped to Washington when our orders come through. Let me know how you feel on this.

I say"presumably" above because we have no orders as yet, though we are quite convinced from grape vine rumors that Washington is our next post. No orders yet, and tomorrow our two years are up. Hard to understand, since Bill Drew already has his transfer orders to Antwerp, and he is not eligible until the end of November.

We'll look forward to hearing from you and in the meantime wish you all the very best. Our regards to Dr. Baker and the Sextons too.

Sincerely yours,

Bob

Robert L. Yost

REGISTERED NO. 177504

POSTMARK

Value $ 7.22 Spec. del'y fee $

Fee $ 55 Ret. receipt fee $

Surcharge $ Rest. del'y fee $

Postage $ 30 ☐ Airmail

Postmaster, By

From W. L. Schmitt
Smithsonian Inst. Dec 25

To Chief Post Inv. Div.
Congress. Comptroller Gen.
Leopoldville Belgian Congo

POD Form 3806
May 1954

c9—16—70493-1

The sender *is not* required to pay a registration fee providing for full indemnity coverage (up to the limit of $1,000). However, if the actual value of the matter mailed exceeds $25, the sender must pay a fee of at least 55 cents. The 30-cent registration fee applies only to matter having no intrinsic value and does not provide for indemnification. Some matter having no intrinsic value, so far as the registry service is concerned, may involve considerable cost to duplicate if lost or destroyed. The sender is privileged to pay a higher than minimum registration fee for insurance against costs of duplication if desired.

Domestic registered mail is subject to surcharge when the declared value exceeds the maximum indemnity covered by the fee paid by $1,000 or more. Claims must be filed within 1 year from date of mailing.

Consult postmaster as to fee chargeable on registered parcel post packages addressed to foreign countries.

GPO c9—16—70493-1

Yost, Robert L.
Filed: Belgian Congo

September 21, 1955

Air Mail

Mr. Robert L. Yost
American Consul
American Consulate General
Leopoldville, Belgian Congo

Dear Bob:

I never seem to be able to catch up with my correspondence or museum business either. I have been wanting to write, for weeks it is now, to acknowledge your letter of August 17 and to tell you that the crate that Mr. Walle forwarded is now safely here,--even though it had some very rough handling. The stout leather straps around the telescope case were brutally cut and the contents of the crate virtually turned inside out. Fortunately, nothing was missing. Whatever extra charges there may be I shall defray promptly, if you will but let me know how much.

Just the other day I forwarded a small draft of $6.15 due Mr. McGregor, one of a number of little bills that have come to hand since my return. On the other hand I am due a number of reasonably substantial refunds for hotel bills, presumably paid in advance but of which fact the hotel proprietor had never been apprised. Also, Sabena owes me several hundred dollars for reservations that were not available when called for at Entebbe. Through some miraculous bit of intuition I arranged to get there a day in advance of our set schedule, to gain time for packing our gear for shipment home via Nairobi. But for this extra day we might not have had time to drive to Juba to catch the fortnightly steamer down the Nile. It was between Entebbe and Juba that we had originally counted on flying. The road from Entebbe to Juba is as good as any in the Congo and some stretches indeed oiled and so as good as paved.

The best news is that you folks will be coming through here some time in October and,moreover, that the State Department may be your next post.

Whenever a good friend comes home from abroad everybody wants something; "me too." With me it's one or two of those little ivory figurines of native huntsmen or warriors that they sell in the sidewalk market where we encountered you and your wife one night. They stand about 8 inches high on a half inch thick piece of wood. Two that I bought for Mr. Bredin

cost 450 francs apiece. I shall be glad to pay as much or even a bit more for two more and shall not object paying duty at this end so that you can ship them insured parcel post. The photograph which is enclosed pictures the several things I bought the Bredins and which my wife also fancies. A wooden figure like the head of the lady on the left would likewise be welcome. It cost 400 francs but came from Stanleyville. Please, only do this for me if you can find the time, otherwise not. On an off chance that you can, I enclose four $10. American Express Company checks that I still have kicking around. If there is anything left after the first three purchases, you might pick up 2 or 3 of those carved faces (in middle of photo). I paid 320 francs for three of them. I would like to make my wife as happy as Mrs. Bredin seemed to be with the things they received. As Bredin wrote me some days ago, Mrs Bredin's chief problem was to find a suitable place in the house for them. But please listen,--if what I am asking is too big an order let it ride. I was tempted by your imminent homecoming but am forgetting that you folks will be busy as beavers packing and rather fully concerned with your own problems. If convenient to get the things I mentioned, okay, if not, okay too.

Next Monday the National Geographic Society will start running through our motion picture film. Let's hope that they find enough of it to their liking so that they may want to show it at one of their Friday evening lectures.

It's nice to know that we may see you folks soon again. Best ever to you all, the McGregors, and our other mutual friends in Leopoldville and the Belgian Congo.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Encs.

Amer. Express checks sent post, registered mail, Sept. 21, 1955

* E 95 · 431 · 485+
" " " 486+
" " " 487+
" " " 488+

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

4

American Consulate General,
Leopoldville, Belgian Congo,
August 17, 1955.

Dear Dr. Schmitt:

It was good to have your letter of August 13 and particularly to read the "shrimp paper." I am, of course, sending the latter along to Dad -- he will be very pleased. He has, incidentally, just published a book called Memoirs of a Consul, the story of his thirty years in the Service.

I have been in touch with Mr. Walle at Cenwarran, who informs me that your crate was shipped on June 30 from Matadi on the S.S. "African Glade" and that he mailed you the original Bill of Lading late in July. Please let me know if you have had no further word from the shipment; it certainly should have arrived by now. There will be certain additional charges, amounting to $3 or $4 over what you sent Mr. Walle. I am going to pay them and will let you know the exact amount later.

We expect to be through Washington in October on our way on home leave, and the grapevine has it that we are going to be stationed there in the Department of State for our next tour of duty. We are looking forward to seeing you all again.

Very best wishes from both June and myself.

Sincerely,

For the Principal Officer:

Robert L. Yost
American Consul

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt,
Head Curator,
Department of Zoology,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington 25, D. C.

Robert L. Yost

Filed: Belgian Congo

August 13, 1955

Air Mail

Mr. Robert L. Yost
American Consul
c/o American Consulate General
Leopoldville, Belgian Congo

Dear Bob:

With this is that little "shrimp" paper in which I briefly mentioned your father as having collected some for us (cf. last line, p. 9; line 5, p. 22). It was indeed a surprise to meet his son, also an American Consul, on my first trip to Africa, still in quest of shrimp. The Museum records show that back in 1922 when we were trying to get specimens of the shrimp being commercially fished off Guaymas, Mexico, that your father then Consul there, got 2 half-gallon jars full of crabs and shrimps and other marine life for us. Although he did not turn up any new species, he did secure specimens of each of nine different Crustacea, of which one had not been previously represented in our collections. I thought perhaps that I had met your father, but I guess it has not been the case unless he once dropped by the Museum to see me.

The collecting gear, and specimens, that we forwarded by rail from Kampala to Nairobi for shipment home has just arrived in Washington but that crated black telescope-case that I left with Mr. Walle at Cenwarran is still bogged down somewhere between Leopoldville and Matadi. I found a letter billing me for storage on my desk when I got back to the office. I've forwarded a draft of double the amount to that outfit, asking that I be informed of any other charges pending which I offered to pay promptly,--anything to expedite it.

That crate is addressed to the U. S. Despatch Agent, 45 Broadway, New York, and contains all of Baker's Leopoldville mite collections, too valuable to lose, and also my winter suit and hat that I wore out of icy New York and may need soon again--we are all praying for cooler weather because we've had a record breaking hot and humid July with early August promising more of the same.

I got the shipment of film from the State Department last week and it is now being developed by the local Eastman processing laboratory. It's got to be good after all the time and trouble it involved; will let you know as soon as it is returned to us. Dr. Sexton said he would communicate with Mr. McGregor about the film and attendant matters, and the results

indicate that he has. Again, I seem to be sitting on the side lines while Sexton has undertaken to run the photographic end of things. We all, collectively and individually,owe an untold lot to Mr. McGregor for expediting that film. I shall write him a proper letter when all returns are in.

My very best to you all,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

Enc.
WLS:vb

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Dr. Schmitt DATE: 4/16/55

FROM : R.L.Yost

SUBJECT: Transit documents

1. Mr. Leclerc at the Airport forgot to get the necessary signature on the transit document covering the eight cameras and the exposure meter. Would you leave it at the desk at the hotel and I will have a chauffeur pick it up on Monday. When we get the signature I will mail it on to you at Bukavu.

2. Since there are now three transit documents in existence (one covering the guns, one covering the air freight shipment aside from the guns and one covering the photo equipment carried in on your persons), the note I gave you should be changed to read that all three should be sent back to us after you have left Congo - Ruanda-Urundi territory. Our letter of guarantee covers them all.

Bon voyage!

Bob (Yost)
Vice Consul
Leopold

Dear Dr. Schmitt:

Mr. LECLERC, the Customs man at the airport who helped us through with the four cases, has prepared the transit document for the cameras that your party brought in on their persons. He would like to have you sign it whenever possible. Perhaps when you go out to the airport with Mr. Harrach on Saturday morning would be a good time.

Sincerely,

Bob Yost

Go by Cenwarran re payment of shipment 32 Kilos

April 15, 1955

P.S. Found your glasses. Will drop them by the hotel at noon.

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Dr. Schmitt DATE: 4/15/55

FROM : R.L.Yost

SUBJECT: Transit documents

Just a note for your files that the two transit documents that you will have executed (one covering the four cases of the air shipment and one covering the hand-carried photographic equipment) should be mailed back to the Consulate General, properly visaed by the Customs post at which you finally clear the Belgian Congo - Ruanda-Urundi Customs area, as soon as possible after leaving this area. We will have to have the documents to present to Customs at the airport here in order to recover our letter of guarantee.